

# SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 27th Year  
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## Disaster Strikes at Weyauwega

### Amateur Radio Answers Call for Communications from Department of Emergency Government

The north-central Wisconsin village of Weyauwega got an early and most unwelcome wake-up call on March 4, 1996 when, at about 5:45 a.m., a Wisconsin Central Ltd. freight train enroute to Neenah from Stevens Point derailed on the north edge of the village. Thirty-four cars left the tracks, and 14 or 15 were pressurized tank cars filled with liquid propane. Six of those cars began burning.

Emergency officials decided to take no chances: All 1,700-plus residents were evacuated from the village, many with only the clothing they were wearing. Most evacuees were taken to nearby Waupaca.

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) personnel contacted State Director of Emergency Government Al Shanks later that morning, who instructed ARES to activate communications and set up a command post at the Red Cross Center in Waupaca. At DEG's direction, amateurs also provided communications for the incident command post at Weyauwega, at the Fremont WI Fire Station (where all the Weyauwega fire department's equipment was taken to be housed and maintained), and at a road block check point at state highways 10 and 49.

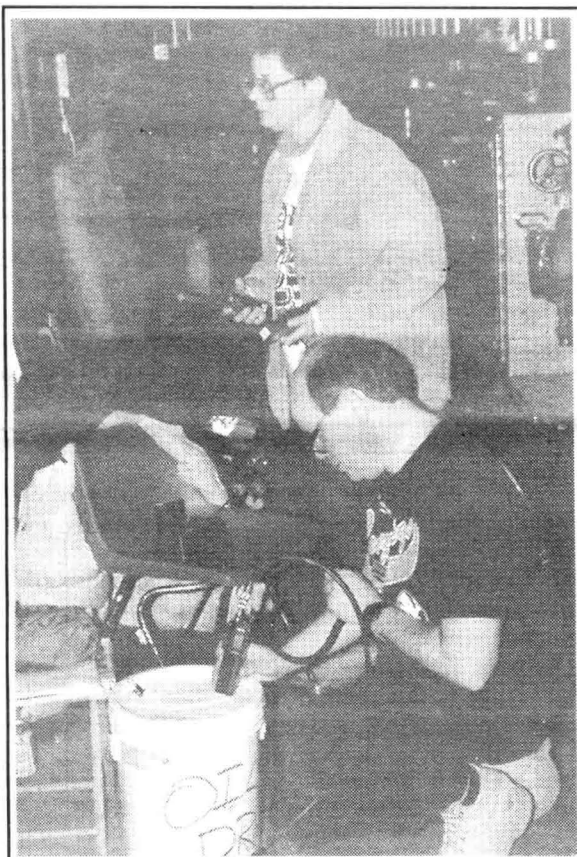
Communications were provided for Red Cross shelters in Waupaca. Circuits were also active from Waupaca to the State Emergency Operations Center of the Department of Emergency Government in Madison, where RACES station WC9AAG was in operation 24 hours a day for nearly two weeks. Two meter repeaters, the 3993.5 kHz RACES frequency, and some packet radio nodes were used for the long-haul path to Madison.

Because of the long duration of the emergency, not enough local operators were available in Waupaca, and a call went out for help. As of March 15, 75 operators from more than 23 Wisconsin counties had volunteered and served at Waupaca - from about a 200 mile radius. In Madison, at WC9AAG, thirty-eight operators did operating stints.

It is too early to provide many more details, and we will have a followup story in our May issue. We close with this: Playing it safe paid off. No one was killed, no one was even hurt. In that situation, it could have been very different.

Please see pages 7 and 9 of this issue.

- Information for this story was provided by  
Bob Krueger, N9BKJ, and Bob Aspinwall, KA9JPZ, EC/Dane County



Peg Haese, KB9LIE, and Bruce Micales, WA2DEU, operated from this position at the Fremont, WI Fire Department. Weyauwega's fire equipment was relocated here. Note the unusual operating table.

- Photo by Bob Aspinwall/KA9JPZ

## PRB-1 Moves Closer to Codification; Needs Boost

Rep. Ben Brancel (R-Endeavor) and Sen Richard Grobschmidt (D-Milwaukee) have introduced legislation codifying PRB-1 into Wisconsin law. The numbers on these companion bills are Assembly Bill 900 and Senate Bill 544.

AB 900 is in the Assembly Committee on Urban Affairs, and no action is anticipated in the near future by this committee

SB 544 has just received a unanimous vote (5-0) in the Senate Committee on Transportation, Agriculture and Local Affairs. SB 544 is now available for scheduling on the Senate floor.

The floor period in last week in March, and the two-week floor period in

Please turn to page 10

## ATV Rocket Launch Set

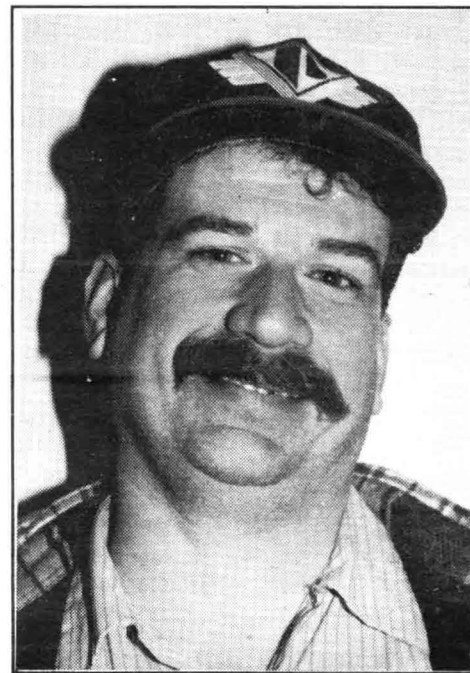
Amateur Radio plays a role in plans to launch an ATV-carrying rocket from Sheboygan, Wisconsin, nearly 50 miles into the air over Lake Michigan, as part of the Wisconsin Rockets for Schools Project, a program to stimulate interest and excitement in mathematics and science. Some 3000 students, most in grades 6 through 12, are expected to witness the May 4 launch of the 11-foot-long Super Loki sounding rocket that will carry a black-and-white camera, ATV transmitter and radiotelemetry gear aloft.

When the rocket reaches its peak altitude, it releases the payload and switches on the equipment automatically, explained Bryan Suits, WB8WKN, of Houghton, Michigan, who's in charge of the ATV payload. Over the next half-hour or so, the payload will descend into Lake Michigan on a Mylar parachute-type device. "One frame of video is 100% success. Anything after that is a bonus," Suits said, but added: "We hope to see the entire descent."

The Rockets for Schools program puts an emphasis on meteorological and environmental monitoring. Forty-five students will participate directly on one of the five teams: Launch, Range Safety, Tracking and Communication, Payload and Recovery.

If it all works, ground-station monitors will see Lake Michigan from aloft. In addition, radiotelemetry equipment will transmit data on battery voltage, internal temperature, external temperature and, possibly, ozone levels in the atmosphere. The camera will be aimed out the side of the payload device, which weighs about 17 lb. The ATV transmitter will put out up to 2 W of power on 434 MHz into a simple dipole or quarter-wave (with the metallic case as a counterpoise). Three 3-V lithium batteries will power the equipment. Telemetry and a CW identifier will be carried on the audio subcarrier. A floatation device is to deploy to keep the payload afloat for recovery. Plans to include a GPS unit were scrapped, Suits said.

"It should be quite a show," Suits said of the one-time experimental event. It's believed this will be the first sub-orbital rocket launched from Wisconsin. The first Rockets for Schools launch was in Florida in 1993.



Joe Mayenschein, WB9SBD, of Near Space Sciences

The ambitious educational project must comply not just with local and federal laws but with the laws of physics as well. Just for the Amateur Radio component, Suits—a physics professor at Michigan Technological University—has found the demands are stringent. Space in the payload is very tight: it measures approximately 1.6 inches in diameter by 1 foot long. In addition, the launch will impose some 100 g of force and temperatures could rise briefly into the region of 250° C. Suits says he's done some ATV work on the ground but "never anything this ambitious" before.

Prior to the rocket launch, Near Space Sciences, a group involved with the rocket launch, will send up a balloon with an amateur crossband repeater, color ATV system and GPS. The equipment on the balloon will facilitate communication between the launch site and outlying areas.

The project had obtained approvals from the FAA, the EPA, the US Coast Guard and "a whole pile of local authorities," Suits said. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, N3AKD, is helping with FCC notifications and approvals required for operation above 50 km (approximately 31 miles) altitude.

- The ARRL Letter

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

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✂ Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

EDITED BY KENNETH A. EBNETER, K9EN, 822 WAUONA TRAIL, PORTAGE, WI 53901

## Swapfests and Other Social Events

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 1996. Madison Swapfest, sponsored by MARA. Dane County Expo Center, Madison, WI. Sellers admitted at 6:00 a.m., general admission at 8:00 a.m. Contact MARA, P.O. Box 8890, Madison, WI. 53708-8890. (608) 245-8890. Also see ad in last months BSSS.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1996. 18th Annual Cedarburg Swapfest, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Circle-B Recreation Center, Highway 60 and County I (20 miles North of Milwaukee, West of Grafton). Contact: Ozaukee Radio Club Swapfest Chairman, W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg WI 53012-1439. Telephone (414) 377-2784 or (414) 284-3271.

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1996. Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest, sponsored by the ManCorad Club. Held at the Manitowoc County Expo, intersection of Hwys 42/151 and I-43 on Cty Hwy R. ARRL VEC Exams will be held at Silver Lake College, nearby, and DXCC QSL Field Checking will be available by the Northeast Wisconsin DX Assn. Contact Glenn, AA9MT (414) 684-7096 or Red, N9GHE, (414) 684-9097 (nights) or write to ManCoRad, P.O. Box 204, Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204.

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 1996. Kankakee Area Radio Society Hamfest 96. Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 1996. Adams County ARC Spring Hamfest, Friendship, WI. Contact: Adams County ARC, PO Box 232, Friendship, WI. Phone (608) 564-7887. Packet N9TD-1 on 145.03.

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 1996. Princeton Hamfest/Computer Show. Bureau County Fairgrounds in Princeton, IL. Sponsored by the Starved Rock Radio Club.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1996. CWRA Swapfest, University Center, U.W. Stevens Point, WI. Contact: John Kalina,

KA9DJA, 1240 North Point Dr., Stevens Point, WI 54481. (715) 344-1407.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1996. Cook County Hamfest at Santa Fee Park, 91st and Wolf Road, McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock, IL.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1996. South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Swapfest, Legion Post, Oak Creek, WI.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1996. Eau Claire ARC Swapfest, Eau Claire County Fairgrounds, intersection of Highways 93 and I-94, Eau Claire, WI. Contact: Carol Ceraso, (717) 723-9205 or Liz Searing, (715) 834-1303. P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 1996. RACINE HAMFEST 96, South Hill Country Club I-94, East Frontage Road between Highways 20 and K. Contact: RMC, P.O. Box 3, Racine, WI 53401.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 1996. The Marshfield Area Amateur Radio Society will be holding their 5th annual picnic. Gather around 11:00 a.m. Potluck, Swapfest. In Wildwood Park, Marshfield, WI. Talk in on 147.180. All welcome. Contact: Guy A. Boucher, KF9XX, 107 West Third St., Marshfield, WI 54449. (715) 384-4323. Packet:KF9XX @ W9IHW.WI.USA.NA.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1996. Swapfest sponsored by C.A.R.S. at Crystal Ridge Ski Lodge, 76th Street and Loomis Road (Hwy 36), Franklin, WI. Contact C.A.R.S., P.O. Box 325, Franksville, WI 53126-0325, or call Mike N9OEZ at (414) 325-7427.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1996. Hamfest & Computer Expo, Omni Center, Onalaska, WI. Contact: Dick Low, KOJYB, 1520 Namomis Ave., La Crosse, WI 54603. (608) 784-9176.

SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 15, 1996. ARRL National Convention at Superfest 96, Peoria Civic Center, Peoria IL. For exhibition information contact: R & B Productions, 7150 University ST., Peoria, IL 61614 (309) 693-9667. Fax: (309) 693-3465. For general information contact: Ron Morgan, KB9NW, General Chairman, (309) 692-FEST. E-Mail: Superfest @ AOL.com.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1996. Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs 1996 Computer Fair and Hamfest. Waukesha County Exposition Center in the Forum Building,

Highways J and FT in Waukesha, WI. Contact KMRA Swapfest, PO Box 411, Waukesha, WI 53187-0411. Or call Ron at (414) 547-2219 or Andy at 549-0393.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1996. Fox Cities Hamfest, Starlite Club, Hwy 55, North of Kaukauna, WI. Contact: Chad Pennings, N9PRC, 318 E. Brewster ST., Appleton, WI 54911. (414) 954-1229.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 1997. SEWFARS SWAPFEST, Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha, WI. Contact: SEWFARS, P.O. Box 102, Delafield, WI 53018. (414) 650-0724.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebneter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

## Club Meetings



Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the

November 1995 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following are additions or changes since that listing.

### FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

The Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. meets the last Wednesday of the month at the Bank One building in Germantown, WI at Pilgrim and Mequon Roads. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. !!GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!

### YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO)

Days rotate: The meeting dates for 1996 are Apr 16, May 15, Jun 13, Jul 16, Aug 14, Sep 12, Oct 15, Nov 13, with the Holiday party scheduled for Friday December 13, 1996. All meetings will be at the Baraboo Civic Center, room 14, unless otherwise noted. Starting time for the monthly club meeting is 7:30 p.m.. The program start time after the meeting is 8:00 p.m., with a one hour limit.

## The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations  
and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

April 06, 1996	Racine, WI
April 06, 1996	Oak Creek, WI (SWAT/MRAC)
April 06, 1996	Oshkosh, WI
April 13, 1996	Fond Du Lac, WI
April 13, 1996	Pewaukee, WI
April 13, 1996	Madison, WI
April 13, 1996	Red Granite, WI
April 13, 1996	Green Bay, WI
April 13, 1996	Marshfield, WI
April 18 1996	West Allis, WI (MRAC)
April 20, 1996	Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)
April 20, 1996	Loves Park, IL
April 27 1996	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
April 27, 1996	Tomahawk, WI
May 04, 1996	Pewaukee, WI
May 04, 1996	Racine, WI
May 04, 1996	Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)
May 04, 1996	Ozaukee Swapfest
May 04, 1996	Oshkosh, WI
May 11, 1996	Manitowoc, WI
May 11, 1996	Lakeshore Hamfest

## Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio  
Education and Information

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TREASURER: Jim Decker, WB9UQT, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, WI 53913-0337.

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### Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$12.00
2 years	(24 issues - save \$2.00)	\$22.00
3 years	(36 issues - save \$4.00)	\$32.00

Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebneter, K9EN.

### When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1.

The only exception is for participating clubs. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that

month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebneter.

Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebneter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebneter.

Swapfest ads should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Jim Decker.

### Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

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### Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

May 11, 1996 Madison, WI  
 May 11, 1996 Red Granite, WI  
 May 16, 1996 West Allis, WI (MRAC)  
 May 18, 1996 Loves Park, IL  
 May 25, 1996 Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)  
 May 25, 1996 Tomahawk, WI  
 May 25, 1996 Onalaska, WI  
 June 01, 1996 Pewaukee, WI  
 June 01, 1996 Racine, WI  
 June 01, 1996 Oshkosh, WI  
 June 08, 1996 Madison, WI  
 June 08, 1996 Red Granite, WI  
 June 15, 1996 Appleton, WI  
 June 15, 1996 Loves Park, IL  
 June 20, 1996 West Allis, WI (MRAC)  
 June 29, 1996 Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)  
 June 29, 1996 Tomahawk, WI  
 June 29, 1996 Redgranite, WI  
 August 3, 1996 Pewaukee, WI  
 September 14, 1996 Appleton, WI  
 September 21, 1996 Onalaska, WI  
 October 19, 1996 Redgranite, WI  
 November 2, 1996 Menomonee, WI  
 November 3, 1996 Kaukauna, WI  
 Fox Cities Swapfest  
 November 9, 1996 Marshfield, WI  
 November 30, 1996 Onalaska, WI  
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Racine, WI  
 (except January, July & August)  
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oak Creek, WI (SWAT/MRAC)  
 (except May, June, July & August)  
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh, WI  
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI  
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Red Granite, WI  
 Monthly, 3rd Wed. West Allis, WI (MRAC)  
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL  
 Monthly, Last Sat. Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)  
 (except December)  
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI (January  
 thru October only)  
 Quarterly Marshfield, WI  
 (Second Saturday every third month.)

Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

#### GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.05 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

#### MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC) OAK CREEK, WI (SWAT-MRAC/VEC)

FIRST SATURDAY DATES (No exams June, July or August. May exam on 2nd sat at 1:00 p.m.): 3:30 p.m. at 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI. (2 -blocks south of College.) (MRAC fee \$5.00)

THIRD WEDNESDAY DATES: At 6:30 p.m. Manor at Park, 3023 S 84th St., West Allis, WI.

LAST SATURDAY DATES (except December): 9:00 a.m. at 7500 W. State St., Wauwatosa S&L, lower level, Wauwatosa, WI.

For Additional Information Contact; Jack Krause, (414) 774-6999 or call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine) or write MRAC, 1737 N. 116th St., Wauwatosa, WI 53226.

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$5.00 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the

card to MRAC/VEC, c/o Jack Krause, W9JK, or Les Peterson, W9YCV at the addresses shown above.

#### BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Amateur exams: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Commercial exams: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Unless otherwise noted at WMVS-TV studios, MATC Downtown campus in the C building starting at 9:00 a.m. for commercial exams and Amateur exams at 1:00 p.m. the same day. The address is 1036 N. 8th Street, Milwaukee. Enter at the North West entrance of C Building. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to take., your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Gary J. Sharbuno, WI9M, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53223. Telephone (414) 355-0237.

Also available FCC General Radio Telephone Commercial exams. Fees are \$5.90 for the Amateur Radio exams and \$35.00 for the commercial exams.

#### MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning (September through May) of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$5.90, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, N29B

#### RIVER FALLS, WI

Held in the church basement at the United Methodist Church, 127 South 2nd St., River Falls, WI. Contact: Chuck Kelly, KA9YRV, 234 W Cascade Ave., River Falls, WI 54022.

#### RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

#### TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

#### STEVENS POINT, WI

Contact: Joe Larson, N9JW. (715) 344-1182.

#### APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

#### MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)

#### KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test session in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Candidates check in between 8 and 9 a.m. with testing starting at 9 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. Contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (414) 730-0967, or Larry Siebers, KD9IA (414) 730-0967.

#### MENOMONIE, WI

The Menomonee VEC will be sponsoring exams from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the UW Stout Communication Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonee, WI. Use the north entrance. Walk-ins only. Contact Jim Ley, NX9F. Work: (715) 232-1397, Home: (715) 235-3998.

#### MARSHFIELD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Held at St. Joseph Hospital, 611 St. Joseph Ave. On 13 April and 9 November in the 1 West classroom located adjacent to the Westwood Cafeteria on the main floor of the hospital. Use the main entrance or any other entrance and follow the signs to the cafeteria. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with testing starting at 9:00 a.m. Talk in on the 147.18 Marshfield repeater. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Walter Friant, WBOKIN, 2310 Wallonie Drive, Marshfield, WI 54449 (715) 387-3870.

#### GREEN BAY, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Ashwaubenon High School, 2391 S. Ridge Road, Green, Bay. Checkin at 8:00 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. Contact N9NOF, Keith Summers, 918 Bluebird

St., De Pere, WI 54115. (414) 336-6087, after 4:00 p.m.

#### BARABOO, WISCONSIN

Location: Public Library, Baraboo, WI. Contact: Steve Schwoegler, WB9RNL, (608) 254-2895.

#### PEWAUKEE, WI

Kettle Moraine Exam Team. Held at the Pewaukee WCTC Campus Science Building, Room S101. 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Contact Al Johnson, AA7CS. (414) 568-0836.

#### FOND DU LAC, WI

Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Contact: Doug Schultz, N9EZF, (414) 922-3088.

#### OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday beginning April 6, 1996. Exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro City Hall. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Walk-ins OK. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, KB9FA, at (414) 235-0987, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

#### ONALASKA, WI

On behalf of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club's Volunteer Examiner team and Bill Wood [KE9XQ] team Chairman, we hereby announce the amateur radio exam schedule for 1996.

The following dates and sessions will be held at the Onalaska Community Center located at 515 Quincy Street in Onalaska, WI at 7 O'clock P.M.:

Saturday, March 30th; Saturday, May 25th; Saturday, September 21st; and also Saturday, November 30th.

There will also be a session conducted Friday, August 23rd at the Onalaska OMNI Center at 7 O'clock P.M., and also on Saturday, August 24th at 8 O'clock A.M. The OMNI Center is located on Riders Club Street in Onalaska, WI. The timing for these sessions in is concurrence with our Hamfest, Computer Expo, and Antique Radio Show also to be held Saturday, August 24th at the Onalaska OMNI Center.

The Riverland Amateur Radio Club Volunteer Examiner Team is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League. The team is field-stocked, and walk-in candidates are welcome. The team does appreciate advance registration, especially for license exams for the General, Advanced, and Extra classes.

Our exams are conducted according to the guidelines of the ARRL VEC. We will allow a re-test on a time available basis, provided a second exam fee is paid. We use multiple choice format answers for the Morse Code exams.

For further information or to pre-register for an exam session, please call Bill Wood [KE9XQ] at (608) 788-8571. You may also contact Karl Simonson [KB9EQI] at (608) 526-9413 or via packet: KB9EQI@AA9AW.EN43KM.WI.USA.NA

#### CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST

#### EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST

#### GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST

#### KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST

#### MANITOWOC, WI, LAKESHORE HAMFEST

#### MARSHFIELD, WI - HAMFEST

#### OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

#### RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST

#### RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST

#### ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST

#### ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST

#### SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

#### STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST

#### WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST

#### WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

#### DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

#### GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

#### DUBUQUE, IOWA - ARRL/VEC

The Great River Amateur Radio Club VEs are now field stocked, which means retests can be given immediately.

Exams are held at 9:00 am at the Central Fire Station, 9th and Central in Dubuque. Use the basement entrance on 9th street. For more info, contact: Carl Clark, NOKAX, 145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. Or call Carl at 319-557-9149. Talk-ins are on the 147.84/24, 147.63/03 and 146.295/895 repeaters.

#### LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, (815) 877-6768.

# Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Jim Merrill, W9AYK, Secretary • W283 Hillendale Drive • Oconomowoc, WI 53066

## SECTION MANAGER'S NOTES



Richard R. Regent, K9GDF  
5003 South 26th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221



SM, Richard R. Regent, K9GDF—STM:  
KA9KLZ; SEC: WB9SMM; ACC: K9FHI; SGL:  
W9RYA; OOC: N6JSX; PIC: K9ZZ; BM:  
WB9JSW; TC: K9GDF; ASMs: K9FHI, W9CBE.

May 4 Ozaukee Radio Club Swapfest at Circle  
B Recreation Center Highway 60 & County I near  
Cedarburg.

Also May 4, Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club  
Hamfest in Superior.

May 11 Lakeshore Hamfest at Manitowoc  
County Exposition, Intersection Highways 42-151  
and I-43 on County Highway R.

May 17 is Amateur Radio Day in Wisconsin.  
Activity of the month: Time to get final plans  
for Field Day projects and preparations.

Green Fox ARC new vp is N9HDA.

Worked All Wisconsin Counties Award  
operating award is sponsored by the West Allis  
RAC, rules and applications from WARAC, PO  
Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Exams: May 4 Pewaukee, Racine, Cedarburg;  
May 11 Manitowoc, Madison; May 16 West Allis;  
May 25 Tomahawk, Wauwatosa.

Sorry to report Silent Key N9FBH.

Let me know if you would like a free list of 127  
Wisconsin nets or 163 clubs.

Thought of the month: *Whether you think you  
can or you can't, you're right.* □

## Wisconsin Nets

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Mgr.
BWN	Yes	3985	1200	0600	W9AYK
BEN	Yes	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2330	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	0000	1800	KA9FVX
WSSN	Yes	3645	0030	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0400	2200	W9UW
NWTN	Yes	34/94	0030	1830	NS9Q
(Rhinelander area)					
RCRA	No	01/61	0030	1830	KA9OMC
(Mondays CST) (Menomonie Area)					
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0245	2045	WB9NRK
(Green Bay Area)					
ARES	No	4.65/5.25	0200	2000	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
RACES	No	3993.5	1400	0800	
WA9OAY					
(LSB Sunday)					

## Orbital Calendars Offered by American Radio Relay League

ARRL publishes monthly orbital calendars,  
which include equator crossings for many popular  
amateur satellites and the Mir Space Station Com-  
plex. These data are helpful for those who manually  
track satellites.

To get a copy, send a 4 x 9-inch SASE with two  
units of First-Class postage each month to Technical  
Department (ORBITS), ARRL, 225 Main St,  
Newington, CT 06111.

- The ARRL Letter

## Know Your Rules

By D. R. "Kuby" Kubichek, N6JSX/9  
Official Observer Coordinator,  
Wisconsin Section ARRL  
1502 South 10th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220  
e-mail: 75210.2703@compuserve.com

### INTRODUCTION

*This is the first of a series of articles that will  
cover the various aspects of Part 97 Rules. The  
intent of these articles will be to increase your  
awareness of certain Part 97 Rules and how they  
can apply. Awareness can help minimize accidental  
or unknown non-compliance situations. The OO  
Program seeks to assist hams in their every day  
radio operations. The OO Program can give techni-  
cal guidance to hams who have RFI concerns.*

*Disclaimer: These articles are MY com-  
mon-sense interpretations of various situations and  
how the Rules may apply. I am NOT speaking  
on behalf of the ARRL or the FCC, as what may be  
common sense to you and I can be totally disre-  
garded by these two groups. But these interpreta-  
tions are the directing policies of the Wisconsin OO  
Program.*

### Know Your Rules #1

#### S 97.119 Station identification. (partial)

(a) Each amateur station, except a space station  
or telecommand station, must transmit its assigned  
call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of  
each communication, and at least every ten minutes  
during a communication, for the purpose of clearly  
making the source of the transmissions from the  
station known to those receiving the transmissions.  
No station may transmit unidentified communica-  
tions or signals, or transmit as the station call sign,  
any call sign not authorized to the station.

(b) The call sign must be transmitted with an  
emission authorized for the transmitting channel in  
one of the following ways:

- (1) By a CW emission.
- (2) By a phone emission in the English language.

This Rule is rather straight forward but is often  
violated or improperly challenged by hams who  
think they know the Rule.

The reason for ID'ing as per the Rule ID for the  
"purpose of clearly making the source of the trans-  
missions from the station known." In keeping with  
the intent of this Rule - ID'ing with sub-audible  
tones, pre-recorded packet bursts, garbled or  
modified voice devices, very high speed > 30 WPM  
CW, sudden reduction of power or antenna radia-  
tion pattern, or a sudden change of modu-  
lation/deviation can be considered an IMPROPER  
ID!

I also feel that No-Code Technicians should  
NOT be allowed to use CW as an ID method since  
they have NOT been tested for proficiency or  
knowledge of International Morse Code.

Since about 1982, HAMs are NOT required to  
ID at the beginning or during the initial call. How-  
ever, using callsigns is a smart, logical, and com-  
mon practice that's still used (i.e. N7POI N6JSX  
calling). HAMs using their HOME repeater can be  
heard using the last few letters of the callsigns (i.e.  
POI JSX).

Within ten minutes or if the call is unsuccessful  
I ID "N6JSX clear" as a courtesy to others who  
may be waiting. Brief, to the point, and fulfill my  
Rules obligation.

Repeaters that use CW are limited to 20 WPM  
CW ID speed. In my opinion this Rule should cover

Please turn to page 9

## Loops! Loops! Loops!

Hang as triangles, squares, zorks; vertical, sloping, horizo-  
high, or low. They get out, fight TVI, cut noise while hiding in  
back rooms, attics, garages; on roofs, fences, in bushes, trees.

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•OL80/75 (270 ft) \$99 •UL15 46 ft \$43 Color: Matte Black  
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# Lakeshore Hamfest

## Electronics & Computer Swapfest Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on County Hwy R (Follow signs to Expo Center)

### Saturday A.M., May 11, 1996

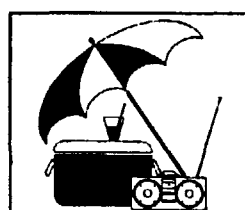
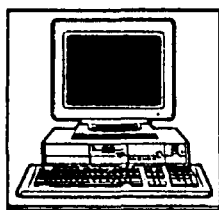
Doors open at 8 a.m.

Friday night set-up for vendors till 10:00 p.m.  
or early Saturday morning

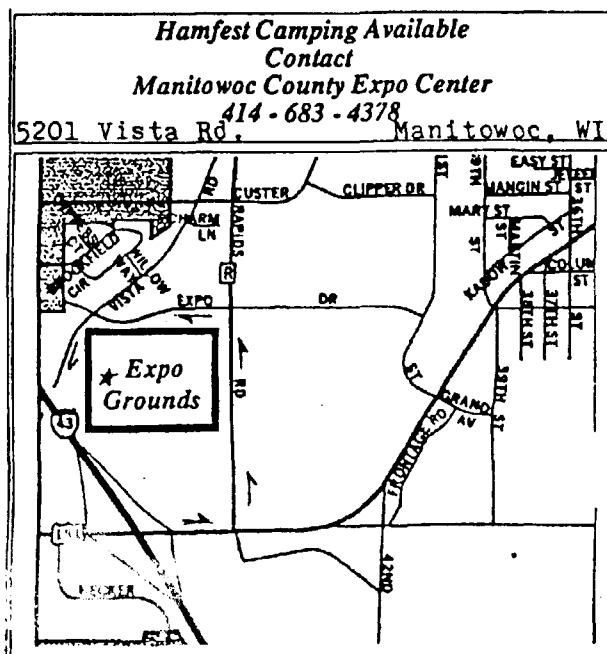
Accommodations for vendor drive-ins

FCC amateur exams

For more information, call  
GLENN (414)-684-7096 any time  
RED (414)-684-9097 days  
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S.A.S.E.

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

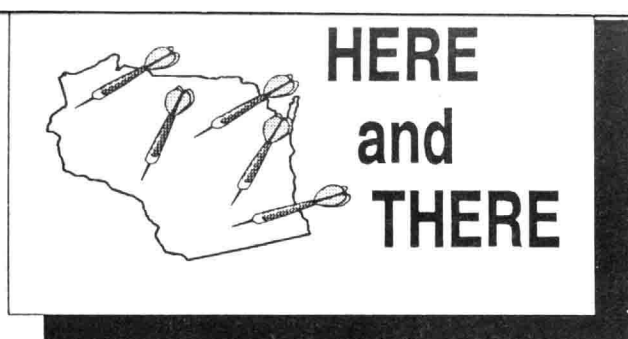
Advance Admissions \$3.00 each  
Reserved 8' Tables \$6.00 each  
Electric Outlets \$5.00 each  
TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

\*Admission \$4.00 at the door

FCC Exams (all classes)  
Silver Lake College (Hwy 151)  
Test Registration closes at 9:00am

Please Send a S.A.S.E.





## HERE and THERE

### Florida Hams, FCC Clip Unlicensed Lawnmower Men

What started out sounding like intermod from a lawn service company on a Sarasota, Florida, Amateur Radio repeater (W4IE/R, 146.91 MHz) in mid-February turned into a three-week-long ordeal involving the FCC and a lot of legwork by the Sarasota Amateur Radio Association, the repeater's sponsor. The intermod turned out to be bootlegging, and club members logged and transcribed transmissions by several people using false call signs--including phone-patch calls.

After about a week, the FCC's Tampa, Florida, office was called in. Initially, the FCC was reluctant to deal with the problem, but after club officials called the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau in Washington, D.C., the problem was handled quickly. (See editorial "Where's the FCC" in this issue of BSSS - editor.) By month's end, the field engineer-in-charge told the Sarasota hams who had done the tracking that they would be in the area that day.

On the afternoon of February 27, the FCC told the hams that they had established a "fingerprint" of the offenders' transmitter and--as a bonus--also had identified two other individuals who had been making rude noises on the repeater! In the joint effort that ensued, FCC field personnel and the Sarasota hams physically located and observed the perpetrators that same day. That evening, FCC personnel called at the home of the owner of the lawn service whose workers had been using the W4IE repeater. The FCC stated the owner was "very cooperative," and several radios and the employees involved were rounded up. Club members later learned that charges were filed against the lawn service and the involved employees.

-KF4DMP, Sarasota Amateur  
Radio Association Amplifier in *The ARRL Letter*

### Petitions, Telecoms Act Behind Vanity Call Sign Delay

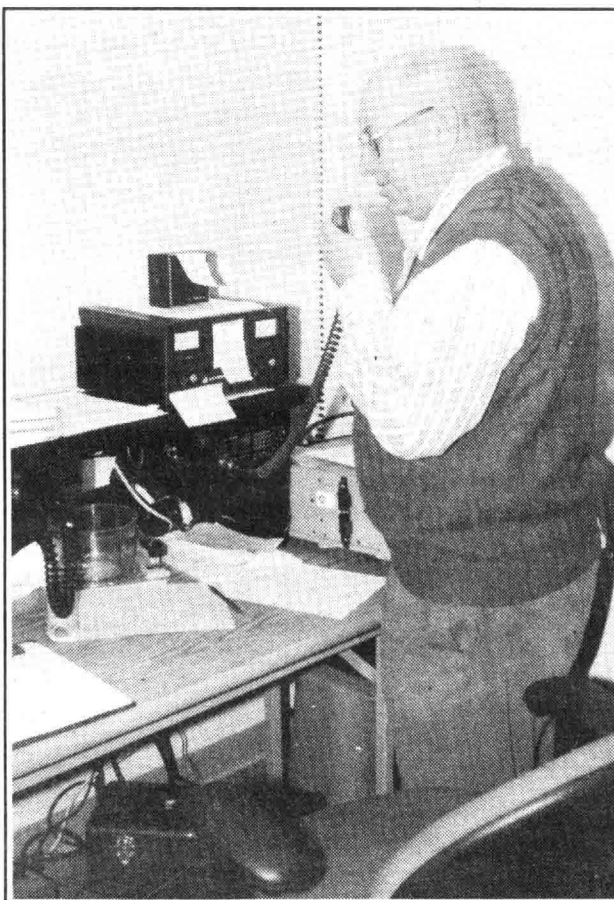
A lack of FCC action on four Petitions for Reconsideration and a flurry of activity to implement the provisions of the newly signed Telecommunications Act of 1996 are among the factors behind the Commission's recently announced delay in the Amateur Radio vanity call sign program. The FCC has said it would wait at least until mid-year to announce when it plans to open the first gate or gates of the long-awaited program. The FCC had been expected to announce opening dates early this year. The deadline to file comments has expired.

Still awaiting FCC action are Petitions for Reconsideration filed last fall by Charnelle H. Summers, W4IJE; David B. Popkin, W2CC; Robert Nelson, on behalf of the Hill Country Amateur Radio Club; and Christine M. Gill, on behalf of the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association.

In his petition, Summers asks the FCC to amend the vanity call sign rules to permit survivors of Extra Class licensees to get a late parent's call sign without having to upgrade, but only if the applicant has held an Advanced Class license for at least 25 years and the parent had been dead for more than two years. Summers would like to obtain W4AR, the call sign of his late father, who died in 1991. In its Memorandum and Order, the FCC granted a reconsideration request by Popkin to limit relatives to obtaining the call signs of deceased relatives that were of the same or lower operator class held by the applicant.

Popkin, in his latest petition, wants the FCC to fine tune the wording of the rules to make it clear that if no call signs on an applicant's list of choices is available, the FCC refund the fee and would not classify the original call sign vacated by the applicant as a vanity call sign requiring a fee for future

## Mack Resigns as DEG/ARES Liaison



Mack Brophy, N9NTB, shown above, has resigned his position as liaison between the Wisconsin Department of Emergency Government (DEG) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Mack served long and well in his liaison position, most recently drawing 12-hour shifts at the EOC in Madison during the train wreck disaster at Wayauega. "Mack's shoes will be tough to fill," said his incoming replacement, Tom Fleming, N9SZF.

- Photo courtesy Mack Brophy, N9NTB/WI DEG

renewals. He also asks that renewal applications be accepted on the license expiration date, not just prior to the date.

The Hill Country Amateur Radio Club of Kerrville, Texas, requests the FCC permit club stations issued licenses after March 24, 1995, to apply for the call sign of a deceased member under Gate 1A. The club's call sign, KC5OJZ, was issued May 5, 1995.

The Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association petition asserts that in the process of revising the vanity call sign rules, the FCC "unintentionally introduced inequities." The association cites the Commission's denial of an ARRL reconsideration request to limit an applications for a vanity call sign to those available in the applicant's call sign district. The association wants the commission to change the procedures for Gate 1 filings to allow for placing a deceased family member's higher-grade call sign in "reserve" for two years to give an applicant time to upgrade. Both the SCRRBA and Summers expressed concerns that the FCC failed to provide a two-year "upgrade period" as the vanity call sign program commences.

FCC vanity call sign application Form 610V is now available, but the FCC will not accept completed forms until it opens the appropriate filing gates. Prospective applicants can get the FCC Form 610V package by writing ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Please include an sase. Form 610V also is available from the FCC via the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form610V> or <ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form610V/>, or by fax at 202-418-0177. Ask for Form 006108. The FCC's



BOY, THERE'S NO PLEASING YOU GUYS---YOU BUSTED ME JUST LAST WEEK FOR TALKING ON THE MIKE AND NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO MY DRIVING!

Forms Distribution Center also accepts orders for Form 610V at 800-418-3676.

- *The ARRL Letter*

### Sunspots Turn up Missing

Keep those low-band antennas up! Solar seer Tad Cook, KT7H, reports solar activity continues to be extremely low, with extended periods of no sunspots at all. "It looks like 1996 will certainly be the year of the quiet sun for cycle 22," said Cook. Current projections show the sunspot minima (ie, numbers of sunspots observed) will occur this year, with the minimum solar flux still a year off. After the minimum, activity should begin to move upward rapidly, and even 10 meters could be exciting again in a few years, he said.

Current 80 and 160-meter conditions are good, especially with the quiet geomagnetic conditions we are experiencing. Conditions on the higher bands should improve soon because of seasonal variations as we head into spring, and not because of solar activity.

- *The ARRL Letter*

### FCC Issued Call Sign Update

The FCC's most recently issued call signs as of March 1, 1996:

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0BA	KI0BM	++	KB0VLN
1	AA1PQ	KE1EE	N1WRE	KB1BWW
2	AB2AG	KG2FT	++	KB2YCU
3	AA3NR	KE3WA	N3WXH	KB3BNP
4	AE4RF	KT4LS	++	KF4HFX
5	AC5GR	KK5XL	++	KC5TBY
6	AC6SZ	KQ6EI	++	KF6BSN
7	AB7PE	KJ7VF	++	KC7PLX
8	AA8WE	KG8VF	++	KC8CON
9	AA9RK	KG9FO	++	KB9MWF
Hawaii	++	AH6OL	++	WH6DAE
Alaska	++	AL7QI	++	WL7CRW
Virgin Is	WP2W	KP2CJ	NP2JD	WP2AIC
PR	++	++	++	WP4NJY

+ All call signs in this group have been issued in this area.

- *The ARRL Letter*, 3/15/96

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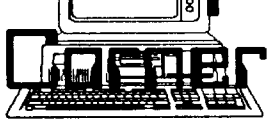
☐ 1 Year ☐ 2 Years ☐ 3 Years ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Send this form, with your check or money order, to Jim Decker, WB9UQT, Treasurer, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, WI 53913-0337. Please do NOT send cash!

April 1996



# The Computer



By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR

105 Martin Drive

Port Washington, WI 53074-9654

(414) 284-9346

WB9RQR @ N9PBY.EN63BI.WI.USA.NA

SKAPLAN @ POST.ITS.MCW.EDU

## No. 30: ANY PORT IN A STORM

One of the most troublesome tasks in setting up your computer is getting new devices, such as a mouse or modem, to work properly. Often, someone adds a mouse to their system and finds that a modem no longer works, or vice versa. The basic reason is that addition of the new device causes conflicts that did not exist before. Here is why, and some general background on how to avoid conflicts.

First and foremost, there are a number of hardware connections in your computer that allow a card you plug in (modem, scanner or whatever) to "talk" to the rest of the computer. These are physical wire connections, and when that new modem you plug in wants to communicate with, for example, the Central Processing Unit (CPU; 8088 or 80286, 386, 486 or Pentium chip), it does so by activating the wire. This activation is called an Interrupt Request, because it is asking the CPU to temporarily interrupt what it was doing to pay attention to the modem's needs. The Interrupt Request wires are called IRQ lines for short. XT's

have 16. Some IRQs are already dedicated to certain tasks, and can't normally be used for other jobs. Here is a list of both XT and AT IRQ lines, and the tasks assigned to them. Note that although there are 8 and 16 IRQs, they are numbered from 0 to 7 and 0 to 15. We inherit this wonderful little numbering confusion from computer engineers.

### IRQ XT AT (286 and higher)

0	System timer s a m e
1	Keyboard s a m e
2	EGA Display Cascade to IRQ9
3	Serial ports 2, 4 s a m e
4	Serial ports 1, 3 s a m e
5	Hard Drive Printer 2
6	Floppy Drive s a m e
7	Printer 1 Printer 1
8	CMOS Real time clock
9	Cascade from IRQ2
10	a v a i l a b l e
11	a v a i l a b l e
12	a v a i l a b l e
13	Math coprocessor
14	Hard drive
15	a v a i l a b l e

You can see that there are not a lot of choices in an XT; all 8 IRQ lines are assigned to something. Don't set your modem to use IRQ5 in an XT or you may lose use of the hard drive!

Ports are the next consideration. We've already seen in previous articles that parallel ports send 8 bits of data out 8 wires, like 8 people walking down a hallway side by side. If the 8 people walk down the hall single file, that is serial communications. Commonly in XT's, there are two serial ports and

printer. These ports are a combination of hardware and software. You can purchase serial cards that have four or more ports, but you have to have the software (and IRQs) to make them work.

The table above shows that the serial ports have a specific, standard assignment to IRQs. COM2 and 4 must use IRQ3; IRQ3 indicates when data is coming in on COM2 or COM4 and the computer will enable reception of one or the other, BUT NOT BOTH AT THE SAME TIME. Similarly, COM1 and COM3 use IRQ4. You can have a device plugged into COM1 and another device plugged into COM3, and you may get away with using both, but NEVER AT THE SAME TIME if they are both assigned to IRQ4. Mice are devices which often give headaches in this context. Mice are always active and ready to send data to the computer, and so should never be in a position to share an interrupt with another device. Try it. Just plug a mouse into COM1 (which uses IRQ4) and assign a modem to COM3 (which also uses IRQ4). Disaster. You can readily expect the whole machine to lock up so badly that the three-finger salute (CONTROL-ALT-DELETE) will not work to reboot. You will need to turn off the computer, then back on again, to reboot it.

By the way, a modem contains a serial port. If your machine has two serial ports (COM1 and COM2) and you use one for a mouse and the other for a scanner, when you add a modem it will need to be configured for COM3 or COM4 (but remember the caveats outlined in the previous paragraph). The serial port in a modem is just like any other; it must also be assigned an IRQ.

Now that all of that is out of the way, let me relate that it IS possible for two devices to share an IRQ. One example is a modem and scanner both using IRQ3. So long as you don't run the modem's program and the scanner's program at the same time, they MAY happily coexist. Sometimes they won't. For example, if you load the scanner program in your CONFIG.SYS, it may interfere with the modem program even when the scanner is not being used. You may have to reboot without the scanner program in order to have a trouble free modem session. One scenario described by Ralph Griffin in his excellent article titled ALL ABOUT IRQ LINES (available on Exec-PC) is that the scanner may run just fine after running the modem program, but that the modem program will not run after the scanner. This is because the scanner software does not properly restore the state of the IRQ lines after it runs, while the modem does. I think Nels (WA9JOB) described just this problem to me recently. The solution is a reboot to restore the IRQ line states, or to run a custom program to do the same thing.

Another ploy is to use an unused IRQ. For example, if you have an XT but there is no printer port in it, you can certainly assign a device to IRQ7. Note, however, that if there is a printer (parallel) port installed in the machine, you may have to disable it before it will work properly, even if no printer is attached. Many boards will let you disable a port by throwing dip switches or installing jumpers right on the board. Now that I have said that, note that disabling the port is not always necessary; it may work just fine anyway. If that sounds like a bit of voodoo, it is. The only sure way to know if it will work is to try it. Thank goodness we hams are experimenters!

A final suggestion and credits before I leave you. If you have a choice, assign any modem you add to a system to COM3. That seems to be the standard way of setting things up. Thanks to Tom (WB9LNL) for suggesting the need to cover this topic; he's made at least three such suggestions so far. If YOU have a pet topic you'd like me to cover, please let me know. Happy computing.

Reprinted, by permission, from the ORC Newsletter, Ozaukee Radio Club, P.O. Box 13, Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074 (Skip Douglas, KA9DDN, Editor).

### Wisconsin QSO Party Participants

Please send a photo of yourself at your station or your mobile operation.. whatever kind of operation yours was in the 1996 WQP.. to BSSS. Please identify all people by name and call and send to Jim Romelfanger, Editor, 412 1/2 Ash, Baraboo WI 53913.

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\*The Volunteer Examiner Team will be testing on Saturday, April 27th from 9:00 A.M. until NOON. If you are testing, bring a photo copy of your original license or C.S.C.E. (if any), two forms of I.D. (one photo I.D.) and \$5.00 for the testing fee.

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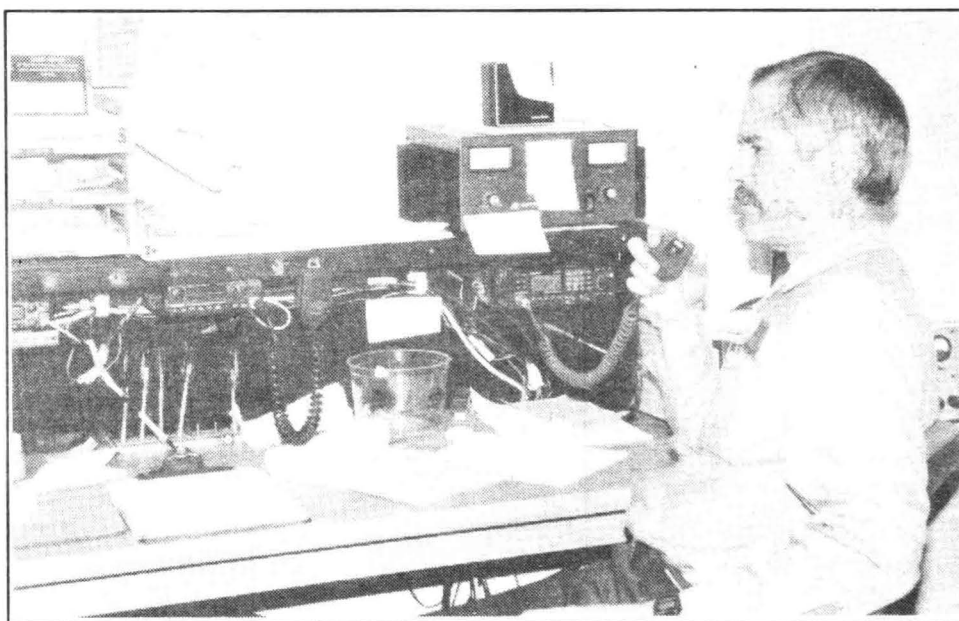


# Hams Help with Communications After Train Wreck Disaster at Weyauwega



Andrew Nemec, KB9ALN, operates near the disaster site. We believe this is in the Waupaca City Hall. Andrew is Skywarn Coordinator and an NCS trainer from Green Bay.

- Photo by Bob Aspinwall/KA9JPZ



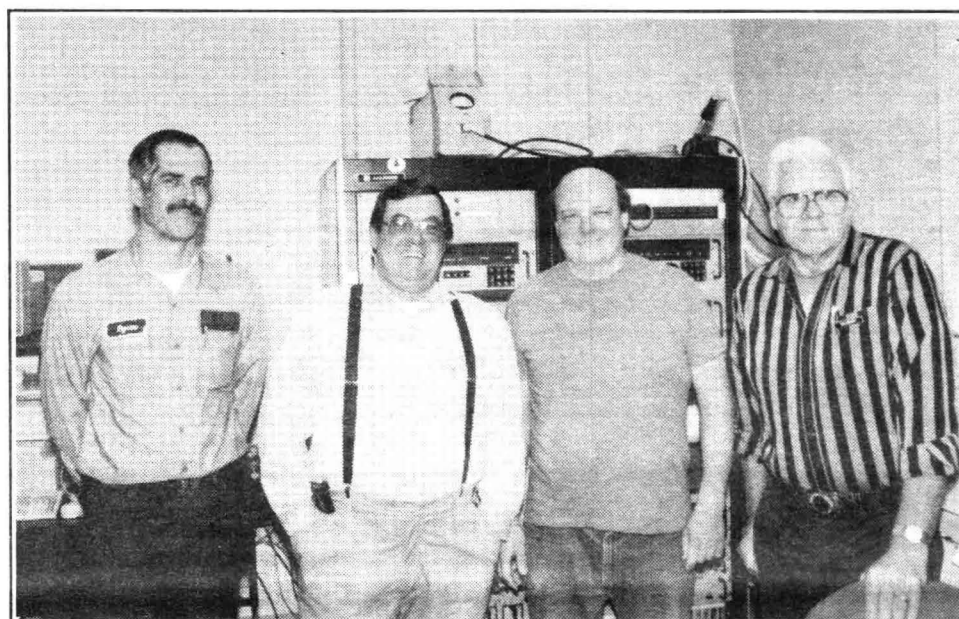
Wisconsin State RACES/DEG station WC9AAG was staffed around the clock for nearly two weeks following the derailment. Operating WC9AAG here is Byron Tetzlaff, N9QRF.

- Photo courtesy Mack Brophy/N9NTB/DEG



Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator John Leekley, WB9SMM, and Waupaca County Emergency Coordinator Jeff Ramlow, N9WBR, look over logistics on a state map at the Waupaca net control site.

- Photo by Bob Aspinwall/KA9JPZ



Wisconsin Emergency Government Director Al Shanks, second from left, took a few minutes between shuttling back to Weyauwega to have a photo taken with three radio amateurs who helped staff the Emergency Operations Center in Madison. At left is Paul Toussaint, N9VWH. At Shanks' right are Bryon Tetzlaff, N9QRF, and Al Jeardeau, WB9BRF.

- Photo courtesy Mack Brophy/N9NTB/DEG

## Press Time Update:

As this issue was being prepared for printing, seventeen days after the derailment, authorities were moving residents back into Weyauwega on March 21. This was after Haz-mat and demolition teams, some team members from a Texas company, blasted (that's right!) holes in the two remaining pressurized

cars, then vented and burned the remaining propane. The process went well.

Some problems were waiting for residents, including contaminated village water - a boil water order was issued - but they were all happy nonetheless to be back home again. And trains are once again moving on the repaired rail line.

The amazing fact is that no one was even hurt. Emergency officials had decided to "err on the side of caution." It seems it was the right decision. □

## For the Ladies

*Continued from page 8*

simulation project allowing the students hands-on study of aerospace. Approximately 250 7th and 8th graders have an opportunity to be involved. Thirteen shuttle teams have been formed through the advisor/advisee program, and most of the activities take place after school.

The team consists of people from the committee as well as teachers in math, science and life skills, art and communication are also chosen. There are duties as well as goals that must be met each day for the mission. And people from the business community were invited to become sponsors to the program.

This year, fifteen students wrote an essay and

from those only eight would be chosen and only four would take part. The team was comprised of Commander Kristy Schunke, Pilot John Racanella, Payload specialist Matt Radke, Mission specialist Sara Janke. The project begins in October. In December the selection of the students takes place. They meet one week before and on two Saturdays, then once a month.

The project was named EAGLE in its second year.

For three days and two nights, the young "astronauts" exercise, eat sleep, and do their experiments in satellite tracking. From the March 24 launch, their purpose was to study Venus and each student was assigned a different part of the project. They ran a packet station on 145.030 and contacted Walt, WB9NFW, Mr. Nolan, N9WAE, John, N9PGY, and Al, AA7CS. They also had a CB radio.

Computers were used to simulate communication with mission control, and were used in various math and science programs. Apple computers were used for research and career research. Even the food was like the astronauts. the landing was a success at 7:30 p.m. March 26.

This was the fourth annual successful flight. After the flight, the crew continues to meet for several weeks. The students and staff continue to learn and grow. I would like to salute this crew, and take the time to say that I enjoyed meeting them. They were a group with a high goal and I wish them the best and hope that some day they make it.

By the way, they said the first thing they did was to find real food. And their least favorite thing was to empty the chemical toilet, which they said real astronauts didn't do. □

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# GUEST EDITORIAL

## WHERE'S THE FCC?

An editorial by  
Richard Regent, K9GDF

"Let's cut back on government intervention," folks sometimes say. Well, the Federal Communications Commission has cut back! In 1984 they stopped giving Amateur Radio exams. In 1986 Volunteer Examiner Coordinators began keeping pools of license questions. Recently the FCC wanted to privatize handling interference complaints and special call sign administration. This year more effects became clear, don't expect business as usual at the FCC.

Who is enforcing the Rules? Does the FCC unknowingly have bureaucratic requirements that impede resolving its own customer's problems? Communicators perceive the reasons more like excuses when the FCC:

- never finds complainant documentation to be precise enough,
- feels sealed tape recordings are potentially altered,
- lacks a budget to do anything,
- is unauthorized to take action or to do monitoring,
- sends a warning letter to suspected offender that doesn't seem to help,
- is stopped by Federal government shut-downs or slowdowns,
- claims to wait for pending regulations on similar cases or
- technicians must observe firsthand to take action.

Interference to Amateur Radio frequencies, most

frequencies and loudmouths on 75 meters, is just part of the symptoms caused by neglect. Don't feel that we are alone. There are problems in the broadcast bands and on TV channels as well.

Milwaukee's south side has an unlicensed FM station on 107.3 MHz; for the past year WTPS-FM, The Pirate Station, is heard throughout the area. Songs are flagrantly played that have lyrics unlike those ever heard on a licensed station. Programs are broadcasting which highlight racism, sexism, political attacks, profanity and even degrading remarks about the FCC, just to mention a few. Is this taking freedom of speech to the limit?

One Milwaukee resident, who is not a ham, asked the FCC for help. His favorite music station is overpowered by unlicensed WTPS-FM that is on a nearby frequency. He put in hundreds of hours of work to develop meticulous documentation, recordings, lengthy logs and technical reports. Despite a thick file of correspondence with the FCC, he is finally stuck at step eight (see above list). WTPS-FM could be fined up to \$10,000 for the offenses, but conflicting excuses of lacking a budget and requiring technicians to observe from the FCC firsthand, delay enforcement progress. Perhaps it costs the FCC more than \$10,000 to send two technicians to Milwaukee. Then too, the offender probably doesn't have that much money or the evidence might be unsubstantiated so it could be a wasted trip.

Meanwhile, there is a sister FM station that occasionally simulcasts WTPS programming on another FM frequency on the north side of Milwaukee. The offender is also adding unlicensed Channel 52 to area television viewing and called the *Pe Po* TV channel. There have been on-the-air tests with highly objectionable videos.

Another case admits to a lack of FCC response. You may have read about it. The *Milwaukee Journal* reported . . . Milwaukee's Alderman Gordon

bornhood radio and TV jammer. Apparently the FCC refused to help because it is *not their jurisdiction*, another reason for lack of response.

The FCC recently sold 14 billion dollars worth of public domain spectrum to commercial ventures, yet they want to privatize solving interference problems and perhaps continue to set aside regulation enforcement. Are they just the auctioneer? The FCC seems to cater to only wealthy corporate communicators who are easier to regulate. Is this sending a message to the villains of Amateur Radio and the intruders of commercial radio and TV to do whatever they want?

Maybe government intervention is just what the doctor ordered. It helps prevent such blatant disregard of the rules from infecting the health of those who properly use the radio frequencies.

(Note: This article does not represent the view of the ARRL or any other organization. Please note editorial disclaimer on page 2. Your viewpoint will be appreciated.) □



## For The Ladies

By Nancy Johnson,  
N9NZM  
407 Adams Street  
Fort Atkinson, WI  
53538

### Never a dull moment!

February has proved to be extremely busy. On Thursday, February 1, the gas line in Al's car froze while up in Reedsburg, delaying his return home by an extra day. His boss gave him a ride home, but he had to return for the weekend and a bridal fair.

Then, while sharing the same car, the brake lines in my car became unattached and, while driving down a hill attempting to stop at a red light, I ran into another car. We were able to get the car home, and it's driveable, but it will take time and work to pound out the wrinkles in the fender.

On February 7, I received a letter from Ron Pollich, WJ9L, vice-president of the SEWFARS repeater club. I had interviewed Jam Lasaczec, KF9GG, but I had misplaced the tape and misquoted facts. Here's the letter I received, and please accept my apology.

Dear Nancy:

I'm writing in regard to your article in the February issue of *Badger State Smoke Signals*. The Board of Directors has agreed in sending you this letter on the club history somewhat. In your article you said that, back in 1993, the club had only thirty members and was less than solvent. Well, back in 1993 the club had one hundred and forty members and was financially sound. It was in 1991 the club had only thirty members and was less than solvent.

It was June of 1991 that President Darrel Welch, KE9QP, Vice President Don Polloch, Secretary Jack McLeland, W9ATK, and Treasurer Art Vahovious, W9VSO, were elected by a unanimous ballot. We began to recruit new members and build the treasury to be very sound in one year. Today, the same club officers have been elected by unanimous ballot for the past five straight years except for Jam Lazacheck, KF9GG, who is now our new treasurer since 1994. We have over two hundred members today and are growing. The club officers continue to do an excellent job, and we will continue to make the repeater one of the best.

Sincerely,  
Ron Pollich, WJ9L

This will be the first article to be included in the contest. I have printed all I have and gotten nothing from, you, the reader, since October. I have begun to work on the prizes, and this will take a while.

On February 28, I met with Rich Hurbst at the Jefferson Middle school. Four years ago, 7th and 8th grades and some staff built a 15x30 shuttle-shaped object in a shop at school, and the future of the space industry had landed. Mr. Hurbst runs a

Please turn to page 7

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# Ask Elmer

**Q.** Since I added another phone in my house, my modem doesn't work.

**A.** Reminds me of the same problem I had that was caused by a touch-tone telephone. When the phone was in the "hung up" position and the ringer was turned to the "on" position, it would beep to the pulses when dialing on our dial phone. By counting the beeps I could tell the phone number my wife was dialing. But when I turned off the beeping phone ringer my computer modem worked properly once again. Experiment with your new phone and see if your problem goes away.

**Q.** What is a gopher on the Internet?

**A.** **Gophers** provide a series of menus that can be used to access any textual information. Gophers can connect to other Gophers, even from Wisconsin to Africa, with the same simple menu system.

**Q.** What is Veronica and Jughead on Internet?

**A.** **Veronica** keeps track of Gopher menus or to search for menus that contain key words. **Jughead** does the same for a specific group of Gopher menus.

**Q.** Where can I get a Milwaukee all-you-care-to-eat delicious fish fry cheap?

**A.** Picture this, a huge fish-fry buffet with your choice of fried, baked fish or both. Add to your plate big servings of potato pancakes, applesauce, cole slaw, french fries, tartar sauce and rolls. Why is it cheap? Buy one meal for \$6.95 and get the second person's meal for a dollar. Serving starts 4:30 p.m. on Fridays at Milwaukee's south side Holiday Inn but is available elsewhere. Enjoy unlimited fried fish for you and your friend or spouse for only four dollars per person (plus local tax). Remember to take a clean plate each time you get more food. Maybe we'll see you there!

**Q.** Is there a program for motion or hearing impaired folks to use DOS with computers?

**A.** One program is called **ADOS**. This AccessDOS program contains a set of public domain MS-DOS extensions developed by persons with motion and hearing disabilities at the University of Wisconsin. For more information read **ADOS.TXT** and **README.TXT** files. Some DOS versions have **ADOS** only on the supplemental disks.

**Do you have a question or a problem? Ask Elmer! Send your questions (no telephone calls, please) to "Ask Elmer," 5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221.** □

## Briefs.....

- It was great to work so many of you in the Wisconsin QSO Party. Activity seemed to be high, perhaps more than 1995. Remember, all stations who send entries will get a copy of **BSSS** with the official results. The results will be published in our July issue.

- We need better software for use with our flatbed scanner. The new software produces more accurate optical character recognition and permits setting defaults. The current software wipes out all the defaults I use in Word Perfect 6.0b. The Mancorad Radio Club has assigned \$65.00 in matching funds toward the total cost of \$130.00. So far, no one has matched their offer. We are grateful to Mancorad for their generosity, and hope someone will meet their challenge.

- Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Editor

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## Pioneer Village Gets Caboose, Set in Front of Restored Depot

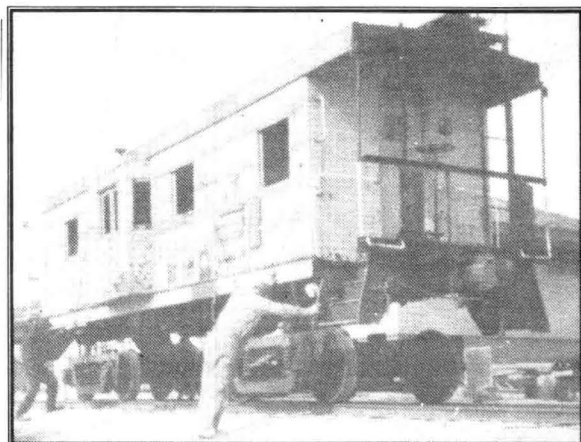
By Fred Linn, W9NZF  
5608 Edgewater Drive, Cedarburg, WI 53012

For years, the Ozaukee County Historical Society has been trying to find an old caboose to set on the rails in front of the restored Cedarburg Depot. Rails were laid November 1, 1995, is a snow storm. The caboose was delivered March 1, 1996, at zero degrees and with a 15-knot breeze.

The redecorated depot features an operating telegraph system and a pair of old Teletype™ machines which have been restored and are on exhibit. A railroad museum will later be located in the basement of the depot.

The Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club operates from this location on Field Day and, in 1995, we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the founding of MRAC as we operated W9RH from here as a special event station. We will be more active this year as we have more volunteers.

Pioneer Village is at Saukville in Ozaukee County. It is open to the public from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and special tours can be arranged before or after those holidays.



This caboose now sits in a prominent spot in front of the restored Cedarburg railroad depot at Pioneer Village in Saukville, Wisconsin.

- Photo courtesy Fred Linn/W9NZF

## From the Editor WELL DONE!

Our hats are off to the dozens of radio amateurs and their leaders who responded to the request for disaster communications following the train derailment in Weyauwega. That derailment resulted in extreme danger because of burning, pressurized propane tank cars. It's too early yet to know just how many of our number answered the call, but it is known that, given the long duration of the situation there, hams from more than twenty counties drew duty, both in Waupaca, where most of the more than 1,700 evacuees were taken to shelters, and at the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Government Emergency Operations Center in Madison. For at least twelve days (our best guess right now), hams were working 24 hours a day to help relief agencies function efficiently. The direct and immediate contact with DEG in Madison was of great help, too. As this is written, we at BSSS don't know, with a few exceptions, who the responders are. But they do. If you are one who worked at either location, please accept our accolades. You have done once again what Amateur Radio operators do best: You were there, donating your time, your equipment, and your expertise to help those who needed that help. You are a credit to the hobby, and, on behalf of all radio amateurs, we say to you: **thank you!**

So far as we know, no one was injured at all, and no one was killed. If miracles happen, that certainly qualifies.

We hope to have more details for a followup story in our May issue.

- Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ

## Know Your Rules

Continued from page 4

all HAM operations when ID'ing - as the top tested CW speed for OO/HAMs is ONLY 20 WPM. Repeaters ARE TO ID at the ten minute conclusion, before going to sleep, after the initial transmitter key up that put a carrier on the air, even if no conversation or audio was ever transmitted.

Now for a gray area due to a lack of Part 97 definition. How many transmitters may be simultaneously keyed in the definition of a "ham station"? This in regards for the purposes of ID'ing.

Does a Repeater licensee have to ID his HT when he is talking through HIS repeater that is already ID'ing HIS callsign?

Does ID'ing through the first transmitter (HT) constitute ID'ing of all the cross-band operations transmitters?

The best answer is ID all transmitters - be safe - be proud of your callsign and accomplishments! Remember the INTENT of the Rule is to "clearly making the source of the transmissions known." But the Rules do not specifically state both transmitters used MUST be ID'ed.

Remember: these Rules are part of what makes Amateur (HAM) Radio unique to any other hobby in the USA. Amateur Radio is sanctioned and supported by the United States government as a privilege to uniquely qualified citizens. We're special so HAM it up - wisely!

Best Regards de Dale "Kuby" Kubichek, N6JSX /9

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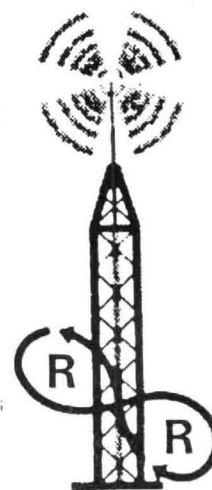
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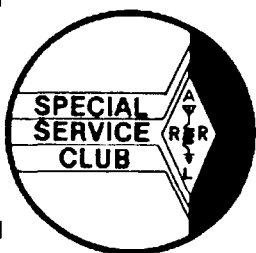
# PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



## Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Dan Abts, N9PZC  
Secretary

Club mail address: P.O. Box 621  
Onalaska, WI 54650



### Meeting Minutes March 5, 1996

The March meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 5, 1996 by President Duane, W9HWQ. There were 23 people in attendance.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as read by Dan, N9PZC.

The treasurer's report was approved as read by Judy, N9LGV. Of the 90 members we had for 1995, 62 have paid their dues for 1996.

**Programs:** Feroz, WU9N, reported that tonight's program will be a demo on accessing ham radio information on the Internet by Dan, N9PZC. The April program will be announced on the Sunday night net.

**440 Repeater:** Dan, N9PZC, reported that they now have a service manual for the Motorola Moxys radios. They are looking for someone to help modify them to bring them down to the 440 frequency needed.

**Net Manager:** Karl, KB9EQI, said that the Sunday night net has been held regularly and gets ten to twelve check-ins.

**ARES/Skywarn:** Bob, N9LZK, reported that a Red Cross Disaster Drill involving Houston county went well. They had a station set up at the site within an hour. Thanks were given to the eight or nine hams who participated. Kent, W9LZQ, reported that Skywarn operations training at the National Weather Service will be held on March 7, 1996 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the NWS office. Skywarn spotters training will be held on March 23, 1996 at 10:00 a.m. in room 100 Cowley Hall on the UWL campus or at the National Weather Service Office. Listen to the 146.97 repeater that morning for the exact location.

**Property Manager:** Bob, N9LZK, passed out a list of all club property to the club officers. All club equipment will be engraved with an ID number.

**Swapfest:** Dick, K0JYB, reported that flyers are being mailed to vendors. He is looking into mailing flyers to all hams within a one hundred mile radius. He is

advertising in *CQ*, *73*, *QST*, *Amateur Radio Trader*, and *Nuts and Volts*. He will mention the swapfest on the Sunday net on 3.913 MHz. VE exams will be held the evening before the swapfest as well as early Saturday morning.

**146.97 Repeater:** Walt, AA9AW, reports that the 146.97 repeater is working fine. Speed dial numbers have been added for some new hams and old numbers have been removed. A new macro was created for the disaster drill. It is similar to the weather watch macro except it states there is an emergency services test in operation.

**Field Day:** Karl, KB9EQI, reported that he is looking for volunteers and suggestions.

**VEC:** Bill, KE9XQ, has scheduled test sessions for 1996. They will be held on March 30, May 25, September 21, and November 30. They will all be at 7:00 p.m. at the Onalaska Community Center, 515 Quincy St. in Onalaska. Two additional sessions will be held at the Swapfest in August at the Omni Center in Onalaska. These are at 7:00 p.m. August 23 and 8:00 a.m. August 24. Tests will be announced on the AA9AW packet BBS. We are field stocked so walk-ins are welcome and retests will be available as time permits. The multiple choice question format is used for CW. Contact Bill, KE9XQ, (608) 788-8571 or Karl, KB9EQI, (608) 526-9413 for information or reservations.

### Old Business

Rick, KV9U, reported that nothing has been done yet about publishing, in booklet form, the Constitution and the Standing Rules of the club and the repeater operation guidelines.

Judy, N9LGV, is checking into having some of the extra copies we receive of the *Badger State Smoke Signals* sent to various libraries around the area.

Feroz, WU9N, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Rick, KV9U, and passed.

*Respectfully submitted by  
Dan, N9PZC*

## Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, Secretary

P. O. Box 401 • Abbotsford, WI 54405-0401

### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4th, at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+ 600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex.

### MEETING AGENDA/PROGRAM

The following items (among others) will be discussed at the next meeting: club membership in the Wis. Assn. of Repeaters and application to the FCC for a club callsign.

### EXCERPTS FROM MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 1996 MEETING

Meeting was called to order by President N9GEN. Present were N9GEN, AA9LE, WD9FWP, N9UBR, N9UBQ, KB9LWW and KB9LWV.

Minutes of the February 1, 1996 meeting were accepted as read. Secretary N9GHZ was absent. There was no treasurer's report as Treasurer KA9WDX was also absent.

There was some discussion about the 147.15 repeater going down again recently, for an extended period of time. It appears that the downtime was again caused by a lightning hit. Northway Communications has been working on it. The

*Continued on page 11*

## WISCONSIN NETS ASSOCIATION LTD.

### NTS TRAFFIC REPORT February 1996

I would like to thank all of the people who sent cards, messages, called and generally provided much support for me and my family at the death of my son. You all helped to make an unbearable time bearable for us. From me and my family, our heartfelt thanks from the bottom of our hearts.

Net activity is down a little in February. With six out of the seven Wisconsin nets reporting, 3269 stations passed 2654 pieces of traffic in January. As usual, the Badger Weather Net (N/M W9AYK) led the way with 1749 check-ins and 2374 messages passed. The Badger Emergency Net (N/M KE9VU) had 702 check-ins and 115 messages passed. There was no report from the Wisconsin Sideband Net this month. The Wisconsin Slow Speed Net (N/M N9BDL) had 211 check-ins and 15 messages passed. The Wisconsin Interstate Net/Early (N/M WB9ICH) had 249 check-ins and 101 messages passed. The Wisconsin Interstate Net/Late (N/M W9UW) had 130 check-ins and 12 messages passed. The Northwoods Traffic Net (N/M NS9Q) had 248 check-ins and 37 messages passed. All of the CW nets showed an increase in February so maybe the evening propagation is improving.

We are going to start the Wisconsin Novice Net up again soon. Any one interested in participating in the WNN please contact me with your ideas and hopefully we can get this net moving again.

In January, there were eight stations

with traffic counts over 100, two of whom made Brass Pounders League. The stations are: W9AYK/2170 (BPL), WB9JSW/777 (BPL), K9FHI/359, W9CBE/340, W9-IHW/135, W9YCV/127, N9CKC/111 and NQ9X/100.

Thirty one stations submitted Station Activity Reports, and eleven stations submitted Public Service Honor Roll Reports in February.

I mail my reports to League Headquarters on the 7th of the month. That makes the deadline for reports the 6th. I can accept reports until I start printing them up for mailing. If you can catch me on the BWN on the morning of the 7th all would be well.

Hale Blakely, W9CBE, will also accept reports and forward them to me. Hale covers most of the CW and SSB nets so there is someone on almost every net to take reports.

Reports can also be sent VIA packet. My packet address is:

KA9KLZ @ NX9V.WI.USA.NOAM

NX9V forwards directly into my pbbs so getting reports to me is not dependent on me checking the NX9V's mailbox.

Thanks to all stations who participate in the Wisconsin nets. You are the nets and Wisconsin nets are the best. 73.

*Submitted by:  
Arthur A. Evans, KA9KLZ  
Wisconsin Section Traffic Manager  
March 7, 1996*

## Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Carl Searing, W9NW, Secretary

1129 McKinley Road • Eau Claire, WI 54703

### MEETING MINUTES March 12, 1996

The March meeting of the ECARC was held at the usual place and the usual time, Bert Spangler, W9ZZI, presiding.

Secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved, followed by a roll call, showing some 28 members present.

The membership was reminded that the location for the April meeting will be the Labor Temple at 2233 Birch Street in Eau Claire, and that the meeting will convene one-half hour earlier than usual, at 7 p.m. NOAA weather representatives will have a rather lengthy Skywarn training session for us, as well as for local fire and police personnel.

It appears that our May meeting will be a visit to the Chippewa County Communications Center in Chippewa Falls. We understand that Kevin Zehr, N9OHE, will be our host, and that Ron Anderson, WA9PAM, Chippewa County Sheriff, may

be in attendance.

It was announced that Jim Staatz, WB9RBP, has been appointed ARES representative for Eau Claire County.

The questionnaire/Request for input sheet sent to all members was discussed.

President N9OHE has signed the contract renting one of the large new County Fairgrounds buildings for our July Hamfest. Details were discussed.

It looks like Hamfest workers will have canary yellow tee-shirts for ID purposes during the event.

A sign-up sheet was passed around for the March of Dimes Walkathon on April 27. A number of volunteers are wanted.

**Lunch Committees:**

April: The club will provide.

May: Judy Spangler, Jamie Lewis, N9ZDF.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted:  
W9NW, Secretary*

## PRB-1: Time to Call Your State Representative and Senator Right Now

*Continued from front page*

May, are the final weeks left in the 1995-97 session. In order for bills to become law this session, action in BOTH houses will need to be finished by the end of the May floor period.

Radio amateurs favoring this legislation should contact Senate Majority Leader Mike Ellis at (608) 266-0718, and Senate President Brian Rude at (608) 266-5490, to encourage them to schedule SB 544 for

Senate Floor action. They should also contact their State Representatives and Senators to encourage them to support SB 544.

Mack Brophy, N9NTB, Sun Prairie, spoke on behalf of codifying PRB-1 at the Senate Committee on Transportation, Agriculture and Urban Affairs hearing. Section Emergency Coordinator John Leekley, WB9SMM, Milwaukee, had planned to speak at the hearing, but had been provided with an incorrect time. He did sign in support of the measure. (See page 9.)

Information for this story was provided by Rep. Ben Brancel's office, Mack Brophy, N9NTB, and John Leekley, WB9-SMM. □



## Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 10

repeater controller was also hit and Northway needs the parameters for the controller so that it can be reprogrammed.

Northway Communications also recently advised that the radio paging service transmitter and antenna will still be going up on the same tower as our repeater, with the paging service and our repeater to share the same antenna.

The club's membership in the Wisconsin Assn. of Repeaters and the need to complete the annual renewal of the repeater's coordination were discussed.

No action was taken at this time on the membership renewal. N9GHZ will be contacted to complete the coordination renewal form.

The possibility of the club applying to the FCC for a club callsign was discussed, but no action was taken at this time. If a club callsign is applied for and received, it could be used on the repeater. N9GEN has the necessary forms for this.

N9UBQ, Taylor County Emergency Government Coordinator, announced that Tuesday, April 23rd, has been tentatively set as the date for SKYWARN training by the National Weather Service, for Taylor County.

Meeting was adjourned.

### CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ  
ARES Emergency Coordinator

Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO..

\* Marty Werner, KB9IQL, Medford, a member of the Medford Area Senior High School Math Team, who recently competed with about 10,000 other students from 120 schools in the annual statewide mathematics contest sponsored by the Mathematical Assn. of America, Wisconsin Section. Marty and the other members of the Medford team placed in the top 20 percent of all students in the state who participated in the contest. In addition, the student obtaining the top score in each school will receive a certificate of merit and an award from the sponsors. Marty, who scored in the top five percent, was Medford's highest scorer and will be honored for that achievement.

\* Tom Shar, N9MED, Lublin, and a Senior at Gilman High School, who was recently named to the B Honor Roll for both the second quarter and the first semester of the 1995-96 school year.

### OTHER NEWS

\* Dr. Richard Anderson, N9SDY, Abbotsford, is among a group of Wisconsin doctors of optometry who will be providing free eye examinations in 1996 through VISION USA-The Wisconsin Project. This project provides free eye examinations for the working poor and their families, helping over 200 such people in 1995. □

### Hamfest Advertisers

You are reminded that, if you are a card advertiser, you get one free display ad, too. Additional display ads are available at additional cost. We MUST have a good, clean copy of your flyer AT LEAST eight weeks before the event. Send to the editor, address on page two. Please also keep the date current in your card ad.

## The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI  
ARRL Affiliated  
Providing Communications for American Red Cross and ARES

Alex Voss, N9RGX, Secretary  
c/o RMC • P. O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 53401-0003



### MEETING MINUTES Monday, March 11, 1996.

President Rob Madson, KF9ZT called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm local time. 24 hams were present.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report was accepted as printed in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as read.

### OLD BUSINESS

Lee, N9VNU, said we had a lot of fun working the Wisconsin QSO Party. He said that as soon as he had the score ready that he would announce it on the Wednesday night net. Tony, N9ZWM, made many of the club's contacts and netted his first DX contact to the Cayman Islands.

Rob, KF9ZT, said that the board met and had decided to change the location of Field Day this year. The site will be at Larry's, WA9JMO.

Rob, KF9ZT, also read a letter informing us of the current happenings in Weyauwega, WI, and mentioned our emergency preparedness status. Kenny, N9WHR, gave a report on the status of our emergency generator, and said it was in poor shape.

Larry, WA9JMO, gave the Ham Banquet summary. The banquet was a great success. Larry then presented Don Parkin-

son, KB9HAM, and Kenny Kuchar, N9-WHR, with Meritorious service awards. Larry presented an award for generous contribution to Troy Alexander, who was present at the meeting. Two awards to corporate sponsors were given to Kenny, N9WHR, to be presented at a future date.

Lee, N9VNU, had a sign up sheet for Field Day for set up and tear down. He said we will have CW and phone as well as 2 meter and 6 meter and lot of other stuff.

Dennis, WB9SVM, gave the Fox Hunt Report, and said that it was a real interesting hunt. There were two transmitters this time. Rob, KF9ZT, and Joe, KB9HSJ, were the foxes this time, and Dan, KA9-OIL, came in first. The fox hunters are getting real good and over confident. The next hunt will be March 30th at 7:00 p.m., and the start point will be at Regency Mall.

Kenny, N9WHR, said that everyone is invited to join in the Kenosha Chat Net on Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m.

### NEW BUSINESS

The was quite a discussion on the condition of our current generator and what to do about it. A motion was made and seconded for the Board of Directors to report at the next meeting as to a plan of action regarding the generator, the motion was dropped.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

The program after the meeting was the second part of Bill, W9OVZ's "Why QRP" discussion. □

## Mancorad Radio Club

John Meyer, NZ9Z, Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI  
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

The March meeting of the ManCoRad was called to order by club president Red, N9GHE, at 7:30 p.m.

The Minutes of the February meeting were approved as amended. The addition to the minutes was requested by your secretary, who noted that during discussion of the Midwinter Banquet, Barney, N9-XER, announced that the winner of the 1995 activity contest and ManCoRad Ham of the Year had been Bob Dunn, KB9INK. The award was presented at the banquet. Congratulations to Bob and thanks for his many efforts on behalf of the club! (And my apologies for the oversight.)

The treasurer's report was approved as read.

Red announced that there will be a special meeting concerned with final preparations for the hamfest on Wednesday, April 24th, at 7:30 p.m. in the clubroom (basement of city hall). He noted that there are still several openings on the work signup sheet.

The president also noted that as a result of the constitutional changes approved at the last meeting, there are now seven members on the board - president, vice-president, three members at large, and now, the secretary and treasurer. John, NZ9Z, questioned the total number of members, as the former president is now an *ex officio* member of the board. Red noted that the ex-president is holds an advisory position on the board. This year our former president Barney is an elected member of the board, as well as *ex officio*.

Clancy, our RACES coordinator, noted that a number of ManCoRad members have volunteered to help with communications, if needed, at the train derailment at Weyauwega, and that George, N9BCX, has gone over there to help.

Dave, KB9KQA, reported that the licensing classes are a bit behind schedule, but are going well. There are still 15 or 16 students attending.

A motion was made by your secretary that regular meetings during the summer (June, July, August) be suspended. This is a return to club practices, due to vacations and other summertime activities. If the need arises, special meetings can be called. The motion was seconded by Glenn, AA9MT, and passed unanimously.

Glenn announced that he had received notice of a special offer from Buckmaster, the Hamcall CD-ROM manufacturers. They apparently want to incorporate ham photos in their product to go with the callsigns. They will give a free Hamcall CD-ROM for every 10 ham photos sent to them. A number of members present had their photos taken. If any others are interested in this, please contact your secretary - I still have shots remaining on the roll of film.

Roger, W9NPX, showed a button he can have made up for the club at \$3.00 a piece or less in quantity. They can be made with the club logo. Contact Roger if interested.

Motion to adjourn was made by your secretary, seconded by Glenn. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

## Ham Calendar 1996 Courtesy Racine Megacycle Club

### APRIL

Sat	6	Testing Racine
Sun	7	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Mon	8	RMC meeting
Sun	14	QCWA #162 Annivers. Dinner
Fri	14	Hamfest Madison
Fri	26	RMC Fox Hunt
Tue	30	Lakeshore meeting

### MAY

Sat	4	Testing Racine
Sat	4	Hamfest Cedarburg
Sun	5	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Sat	11	Hamfest Manitowoc
Sat	11	Hamfest Peotone
Mon	13	RMC meeting
Fri	17	through
Sun	19	Dayton Hamvention
Sat	18	through
Sun	19	50 MHz Spring Sprint
Mon	20	QCWA #162 Business Meeting
Fri	24	RMC Fox Hunt

### JUNE

Sat	1	Testing Racine
Sat	1	Hamfest Friendship
Sun	2	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Sun	2	Hamfest Princeton
Sat	8	through
Mon	10	VHF QSO Party
Sun	9	Hamfest Stevens Point
Sun	9	Hamfest McHenry
Mon	10	RMC meeting
Fri	21	RMC Fox Hunt
Sat	22	Field Day starts
Sun	23	Field Day ends

### JULY

Sun	7	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Mon	8	RMC meeting
Sat	13	Hamfest Oak Creek
Sat	13	IARU HF World Champ'ship
Fri	19	RMC Fox Hunt
Sat	27	Hamfest Eau Claire
Sat	27	Hamfest Rockford
Sun	28	HAMFEST RACINE!
Tue	30	Lakeshore meeting

### AUGUST

Sat	3	through
Sun	4	UHF Contest
Sun	4	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Mon	12	RMC Meeting
Fri	16	RMC Fox Hunt
Sat	17	through
Sun	18	10 GHz Contest
Sun	19	QCWA #162 Annual Picnic
Sat	24	Hamfest Onalaska

### SEPTEMBER

Sun	1	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Sat	7	Testing Racine
Mon	9	RMC Meeting
Fri	13	RMC Fox Hunt
Fri	13	through
Sun	15	Hamfest Peoria
Sat	14	through
Sun	15	VHF QSO Party
Sun	16	QCWA #162 Business Meeting
Sat	21	Amateur Radio Awareness
Sat	21	through
Sun	22	Hamfest Grayslake
Sat	21	through
Sun	22	10 GHz Contest

### OCTOBER

Sat	5	Testing Racine
Sun	6	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Fri	11	RMC Fox Hunt
Sun	13	Hamfest Waukegan (KMRA)
Mon	14	RMC Meeting
Sat	19	through
Sun	20	BSA Jamboree on the Air
Sat	19	through
Sun	20	Simulated Emergency Test
Sun	20	QCWA #162 Election
Tue	29	Lakeshore Meeting

### NOVEMBER

Sat	2	Testing Racine
Sat	2	Sweepstakes - CW
Sun	3	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Fri	8	RMC Fox Hunt
Mon	11	RMC Meeting
Sat	16	through
Mon	18	Sweepstakes - Phone
Mon	18	QCWA #162 Business Meeting

### DECEMBER

Sun	1	Kenosha Ham Breakfast
Fri	6	RMC Fox Hunt
Fri	6	through
Sat	7	160-Meter Contest
Sat	7	Testing Racine
Sun	8	QCWA #162 Christmas Meeting
Mon	9	RMC Christmas Meeting
Sat	14	10-Meter Contest
Tue	31	Straight Key Night

Submitted for approval:  
John Meyer, NZ9Z, Secretary

### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Glenn	AA9MT
Red	N9GHE
John	NZ9Z
Dave	KB9KQA
Ken	K9HAG
Gene	KB9KXF
Vic	WB9VYO
Dick	N9QFY
Bill	WD9ERN
Bill	N9XEZ
Bob	KB9INK
Dave	N9HNP
Roger	W9NPZ
Denise	N4WKG
Mary	KB9GOY
Dan	KA9EAZ
Ken	WB9OBX
Paul	N9QFX
Bill	K9DUK



At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07-.67 and Club Station

P. O. Box 923 • Plover, WI 54467

### MEETING MINUTES February 14, 1996

The call to order at 7:34 pm was immediately followed by a fascinating slide show and narrative by Mike Peters, W9-GHY, concerning the Greek island of Crete.

The secretary, treasurer, and engineer gave their reports. Bob Baird, W9NN, noted that some members have been neglecting to identify themselves when using the repeater and that there have been some inappropriate uses of the phone patch. Activities manager Mike Eiden, WD9JID, reported that January's club banquet went well and invited suggestions for activities through September. Some of those in attendance voiced further opinions on January's banquet, and it was unclear from the discussion whether there would be a consensus next winter to hold the banquet at the same site.

President Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, noted that the club provided good help for the Frostbite Run, but that the communication between our volunteers and other volunteers could have been better. John Kalina, KA9DJA, reported that handbills announcing the club's June 9th Swapfest at the University Center of UW-Stevens Point have been printed and that advertising of this event will soon be underway. Joe Larson, N9JW, announced that the first organizational meeting had been held for the Special Olympics, which will take place in Stevens Point on June 6-8.

Under "new business", Joe Larson, N9JW, distributed a document entitled "A Proposal to the Rib Mountain Repeater Association General Membership Concerning the Feasibility of the Addition of a Configuration of Remote Inputs to the 146.22/.82 MHz System and a Rough Design of this System." Some discussion ensued but no action was taken. It was reported that some club equipment needs repair; more information on this will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted:  
David Tamres, KB9IIF*

### ATTENDANCE

Rick Abbott	KB0LGB
Bob Baird	W9NN
Mary Eiden	KA9FAS
Mike Eiden	WD9JID
John Kalina	KA9DJA
Joe Larson	N9JW
Al Mallek	N9WBS
Gordon Miller	KE9IA
Mike Peters	W9GHY
David Tamres	KB9IIF
Jim Tuszka	N9MEB

### MEETING MINUTES March 13, 1996

Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. The club was then treated to a slide show narrated by activities manager Mike Eiden, WD9JID, featuring images of last summer's Boy Scout Camp in Rhinelander.

Club Secretary David Tamres, KB9-IIF, expressed regret for having missed the deadline for submitting minutes of the February meeting for publication in last month's issue of *Smoke Signals*. Treasurer Joe Larson, N9JW, reported on the club's finances and distributed a list, prepared for the club's insurer, showing the replacement costs for club-owned equipment. Discussion ensued concerning these replacement costs. A revised list will be made available at the next meeting. The engineer's report noted that Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, and Jim Tuszka, N9MEB, will conduct tests on the antenna of the 67 repeater over spring break (March 16-24).

Following up on topics raised at last month's meeting, club members continued

to voice opinions on last January's banquet and on our participation in the Frostbite Run. An *ad hoc* committee consisting of Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, Bob Baird W9NN, Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, and Scott Jasper, NE9U, was formed to plan and coordinate club support for future activities of the Frostbite Run variety. Notices announcing our Swapfest (see Feb. minutes) have been sent to hobby publications by John Kalina, KA9DJA.

Scott Jasper, NE9U, distributed raffle tickets for club members to sell. This year's raffle prizes include \$250 cash, 4 Green Bay Packer tickets, 2 Milwaukee Brewer gift certificates, and an autographed Green bay Packer football! The drawing for the raffle prizes will take place at the May 8th club meeting. Ticket holders needn't be present at the drawing to win. A separate raffle will be held at the Swapfest, using tickets sold at the door. The Swapfest raffle will feature ham prizes and, as in the case of the May 8th drawing, one needn't be present at the drawing to win.

Joe Larson, N9JW, reported on the ongoing planning for the Special Olympics. Later in the meeting, Joe recapped the proposal to the Rib Mountain Repeater Association (see Feb. minutes). Pros and cons were discussed. No action was taken.

Regarding Field Day - to be held, as always, on the 4th Saturday in June - the consensus among those attending was in favor of participation, provided that operators could be found for all shifts. Support was voiced for having a "two-ten" arrangement: one tent for the advanced/aggressive operators and one for the beginners. Other suggestions included having UHF/VHF operation and possible arranging to have rigs in buses rather than in tents.

Under "New Business," Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, suggested that the club consider affiliating itself with an Amateur Radio club in a sister city outside of the USA. Art Wysocki, N9BCA, proposed that the club revise its schedule for dues collection to bring it into sync with the renewal schedule of Smoke Signals. Both Mike's and Art's suggestions will be taken up again at a future meeting. Scott Jasper, NE9U, recommended that we restart the Monday night ARES net and volunteered to be the net coordinator for the first few weeks. Art Wysocki, N9BCA, and Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, expressed willingness to serve as net coordinators on occasion. Scott also asked for club approval to sell our 220 MHz radio and purchase a used 440 MHz unit at about the same price. Art Wysocki moved approval, Mike Pagel seconded, and the motion was carried by voice vote.

It was announced that Frank Guth, W9BCC, who has recently been in poor health, has resigned as equipment manager for the club. Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, volunteered to take over Frank's duties. We all extend to Frank our best wishes. Readers acquainted with Frank may wish to send him their personal greetings and messages of support.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted:  
David Tamres, KB9IIF*

### ATTENDANCE

Bob Baird	W9NN
Jim Benak	KA9ACE
Mary Eiden	KA9FAS
Mike Eiden	WD9JID
John Feltz	WA9LWJ
Dave Gollo	N9OVT
Scott Jasper	NE9U
John Kalina	KA9DJA
Joe Larson	N9JW
Mike Pagel	KA9LAQ
David Tamres	KB9IIF
Arthur Wysocki	N9BCA

## Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC, Secretary

E616 810th Avenue

Knapp, WI 54749

**2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output**

Greetings RCRA sponsors and guests,  
Time for some RCRA oneliners.

KB9AGC, Melvin Stang, has made a rare appearance on the program for public television "Wisconsin Rustic Roads".

N9IMN, Jim Kraft, reports that some of the Menomonee National Guard equipment was involved with the rescue at the Weyauwega disaster.

AA9BB, Jim Wiskow, at Arcadia sends word that daughter Julie has passed her Technician class license.

N9WJY, Rod Steele, hails from Chippewa Falls and reports son Ryan has passed his Technician class license at the age of 10.

KB9MMT, Jeff Wait, at Menomonee has successfully loaded up a backyard tree for 2 meters per a recent article in "73s" magazine.

KF9DU, Jon Fuller, at Tainter Lake is available for those who need some computer help.

WB9PMF, Tim Rose, from Chippewa Falls and W9VAJ, Jim Humphrey, Elk Lake have participated in the Wisconsin QSO Party and are entering their contacts for the RCRA.

KB9MMR, Bill Kramer, at Menomonee is looking for any receiver that may cover HF and shortwave.

N9XAS, Bob Hulverson, at Durand has returned from Arizona and is busy harvesting maple syrup on his farm near Plum City.

The most recent gathering was the annual auction in Eau Claire on February 27th. Attendance at the auction was 95. Participants exhibited about 15 tables of electronics for the hobby. Our sincere

appreciation to all who made donations, attended the event and many thanks to our excellent auction team. Yield from the auction was just over \$800.

### 1996 Eau Claire Auction Team

W9QAH, Bruce Walther,  
Auctioneer

Kitchen Helpers  
KF9CU, Arlene Kraft  
KB9MAU, Judy Holtzman  
Delores Wendt Terry Wait

Auctioneer's Assistants  
W0LUY, Ernie Wendt  
Rusty and Todd Holtzman  
N9WJY, Rod Steele  
N9TTV, Glenn Thompson  
KB9MMT, Jeff Wait  
N9TOW, Doug Farrell

Door Prize Donors  
N9ZTY, Bob Hummel  
K9KGB, Bill Duncan  
WK9Q, Neil Lawton  
WB9PMF, Tim Rose, and Hubbard  
Scientific  
W9QAH, Bruce Walther

Top Equipment Donor  
KE9BM, Ron Moody

The last meeting for the spring will be on April 23rd at the Cornucopia Restaurant in the T-Bird Mall Menomonee. Meeting time is 7:30 pm.

*RCRA Sec/Treasurer  
Steve Hart, KA9OMC*



## Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW,  
Secretary  
465 Elder Lane  
Allenton, WI 53002-9799

**Club Repeater: 146.73 MHz**

### MEETING MINUTES March 14, 1996

The March 14, 1996 meeting of the Washington County Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:33 P.M. by President Walt Gossfeld, N9LLS, with 16 members and 1 guest attending.

The minutes of the February meeting were read by Secretary Tom, N9LZW. Chris, N9ZES, corrected the call of Jim Klas to KF9VV. There was a motion by Mark, N9UGH, seconded by Bob, AA9-EF, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Dave, KA9RNU. The club presently has 41 members. There was a motion by Bob, KG9CW, seconded by Bob, AA9EF, to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

### Repeater Committee

The Repeater Committee report was given by Don, K9GR. Don reported that the duplexer had been re-tuned and the pre-amp has been tuned and installed. Although the repeater is working exceptionally well, Don has plans to make some additional improvements.

Don also explained that the club will need a backup repeater and asked that anyone who becomes aware of one for sale to let him know about it. The club is presently doing well financially.

### ARES

An ARES report was given by Walt,

N9LLS. Walt reported that he and others toured the Ozaukee County Justice Center recently.

Tom, N9LZW, reported that there is still time to apply for the scholarships available through the Foundation For Amateur Radio.

Tom mentioned that there is a Kantronics Digital Seminar scheduled for March 30th at Amateur Electronic Supply in Milwaukee.

Tom also noted that there are two nearby swapfests this month. The first is the Tri County ARC Hamfest 1996 at Jefferson, WI on March 17th and the second is the Lamarsfest 1996 at Grayslake, IL on March 31st.

Larry, WB9BVB, reported that this Saturday's breakfast would be held at Corfu Restaurant in Richfield. There was some discussion during which everyone agreed that the Menomonee Falls club members should be encouraged to join us because this restaurant is conveniently located for them.

### OLD BUSINESS

Walt, N9LLS, said we are looking for someone to take on the role of Emergency Coordinator/Radio Officer. We are also looking for someone interested in becoming a Program Chairman for the club. For the time being, anyone with an idea is asked to set up a program for a meeting night.

There was some discussion on the home-brew contest and what are appropri-

*Continued on page 13*



## Explorer Post 424/KB9KUT Raises Money for Young Hams

By Alex Voss, N9RGX  
3333 Standish Lane, Racine, WI 53405

(KENOSHA) - The Amateur Radio Explorer Scout Post 424, KB9KUT, sponsored by the UAW local 72 of Kenosha, held its annual Porky Pancake Breakfast fund raiser on Sunday March 10, 1996 at the union hall. From 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., the Explorer Scouts raised money by making their delicious pancake breakfasts. The Explorer Scouts of America is the young adults program of the Boy Scouts of America for men and women 14 through 20 years of age.

The Amateur Radio Explorer post lead by Advisor; Harold Bouse, WD9-HPZ, encourages the skill and desire to help others by the means of Amateur Radio. The Porky Breakfast is an annual fund raising event sponsored by the Post. "We've had a pretty good turn out this year", said Bouse. This year the Porky

breakfast was held the same day as the Wisconsin QSO party, so many hams stopped by to have a good meal before the contest.

The Explorer Post has helped many young people get their ham tickets and understand the principles of good amateur practice. The post has many activities such as its Winter camp out on the week end of March 15, where they hope to make many contacts on 2 meters as well as on the low bands.

The Explorer Scouts also enjoy working the BSA sponsored Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) in October and, of course, Field Day. The Amateur Radio Explorer Scout Post 424 is an important part of the South-Eastern Wisconsin Ham Community.

## WISCONSIN NETS ASSOCIATION LTD.

### MEETING MINUTES March 17, 1996

The meeting was called to order by the president KE9VU immediately after the close of the BEN session at approximately 12:30. Present were: KE9VU, WB9JSW, W9AYK, W9KKM, N9BDL, WB9ICH, W9CBE, W9UW, W9YCV and KA9BHL came later. Motion to accept the minutes of December 10, 1996 BDL/ICH.

### OLD BUSINESS

KA9KLZ informed KE9VU that there is a new net manager for Wisconsin Novice Net. He is N9MXW, Tom. The net will meet daily on 3.723 MHz at 6:15 local time daily. This net is a training net for people wanting to work on their code speed & effectiveness.

### NEW BUSINESS

A request has been made to ask the NCS to standby for emergency traffic prior to reading the net preamble. A short discussion followed. No action was needed. Time and place for the next meeting June 9, 1996 Sunday at the CWRA swapfest. University Center U.W. Stevens Point. Check at the registration desk for the proper time and room assignment.

YCV pleads guilty for dragging his feet with the new novice net. He WILL prepare an announcement for BSSS to make people aware of the net times and purpose.

### REPORTS

**TREASURER:** We have more money now than we had last year by about 1/3 to 1/4. He listed the calls of overdue, currently due and coming due BOOSTER fees. (Secretary includes a note to those people so noted, and the official treasurer's report.) If you have questions about the fees, refer to the February 1996 BSSS article by W9KKM (page 4) or contact W9KKM on the air.

BWN: The band opens about 6:30

these mornings, which makes our job much more enjoyable. The traffic count is down from the 90s to 75 or so per day. That is because we haven't had to rely as heavily on AA0OM for relays. NWS says they have the hardware installed and have received the software for the new direct input to Sullivan. They have to install the software then get the new phone number to the liaison stations before we are ready to use it. Currently, Sullivan has to call the Bismark ND station several times a week to get them to reboot their computer for us. That should all change shortly. DE W9AYK n/m.

**BEN:** KE9VU N/M - Current band conditions have favored the noon net. Check ins are up to 20-25 per session. With 4-5 pcs of traffic/session. We are grateful to those that come from late WIN and take traffic to the other nets. The NCS have been very reliable.

**WSBN:** K9UTQ N/M - Sent word via W9AYK that they are maintaining a status quo. It is good to have extra NCS stations to help out.

**WSSN:** N9BDL N/M - Says the net meets daily at 6:30 local time on 3.645 MHz using about 13 WPM. Winter propagation has been poor.

**WIN-E:** WB9ICH N/M - Propagation has been improving recently. Check ins are up to about 8/session. Traffic has increased to about 4/session.. Time wise we are on 10-13 minutes/session. We can use more people to go to 9RN and sideband nets. We can use additional NCS. See Larry for details.

**WIN-L:** W9UW - Propagation has not been as favorable as we expected by this time. Check ins are 4-5/session average time is 8 minutes/session. We too can use additional NCS. Coverage from 9RN has been excellent and to the sideband nets is also good.

**NWTN:** no report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned BDL/AYK at 1:21 p.m.

Submitted:  
W9AYK Secretary WNA

## Arrest Made in Murder of Ham Couple

Authorities in Louisiana have arrested an 18-year-old man in the brutal slayings of former ARRL Delta Director Floyd Teetson (originally from Wisconsin - BSSS editor), W5MUG, and his wife Winnie, WN5YTR. Webster Parish, Louisiana, Sheriff's Department Investigator Gary Valentine said Kevin Coleman of Heflin, Louisiana, who used to do yard work for the couple, was arrested March 18 and charged with two counts of homicide. Coleman, a suspect from the day the bodies were found, confessed to the murders, Valentine said. Coleman already was behind bars at the Webster Jail in Minden when he was arrested, serving a sentence on an unrelated traffic charge.

According to Valentine, robbery was the apparent motive in the killings. Authorities recovered jewelry and valuables that had been taken from the Teetsons' home. They also recovered a knife and a length of pipe believed used in the killings. Valentine said Coleman struck while the couple was at home, apparently hoping the Teetsons would tell him where they kept other valuables and money. Coleman is being held without bond. The case is to be presented to a Webster Parish grand jury, which will decide whether to indict.

The couple's family had offered a 10,000 dollar(s) reward for information leading to the arrest and successful prosecution of the couple's killer. The Teetsons' bodies were found outside their home near Heflin, Louisiana, February 23. Authorities believe the couple died two days earlier.

## Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 12

ate entries. Preferably, these would be something made from scratch. Kit projects are discouraged. The home-brew contest is scheduled for the May 9th meeting.

Tom, N9LZW, recommended that now that the club is sponsoring a repeater, that it become a member of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR). Dave, KA9RNU, discovered that the club had paid for a membership in 1994 but not since that time. The suggested dues for the size of our club and number of repeater users is \$20.00 and that would provide for 2 newsletters to be sent. Maury, W9MQD, said that WAR membership was a good idea. There was a motion by Don, K9GR, seconded by Gary, W9XT to apply for membership in WAR at the \$20.00 fee.

Dave, KA9RNU, suggested that the club consider sponsoring a swapfest. He explained that West Bend's Silverbrook School allows rental of it's gym and would be a good location. Another alternative would be West Bend's new hockey rink during the off season.

There being no further new business, the president entertained a motion to adjourn. There was a motion by Sherm, W9NGT, seconded by Kevin, N9LTH, to

adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
Tom, N9LZW, Secretary

Following the meeting, members were treated to a program on special VHF operating presented by Ken Boston, WF9X. Ken explained various weak signal operating techniques including tropo scatter, sporadic E, aurora, meteor shower, and moon-bounce (EME). Thanks Ken for this very interesting presentation.

### Breakfast Schedule

Washington County ARC members meet for breakfast each Saturday morning at varying restaurants around the county. Friends and guests are welcome to join us. Here is the Schedule for April as provided by our Food Chairman, Larry Puza, WB9-BVB:

Apr 06, 1996, 9:00 a.m., Jimmy's Restaurant, Jackson

Apr 13, 1996, 9:00 a.m., Slinger Inn, Slinger

Apr 20, 1996, 9:00 a.m., Fay's Restaurant, West Bend

Apr 27, 1996, 9:00 a.m., Corfu Restaurant, Hubertus

## Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO  
5400 Six Mile Road  
Radne, WI 53402



Our Chapter QSL cards have arrived, gold with black ink. Seems the printer could not print blue on yellow stock. Armed with 500 cards our members working the club call, KB9LUJ, will be looking for rare and not so rare contacts during the up coming Field Day, 22 and 23 June 1996. Our Chapter will operate Field Day from a hay field or it might be a corn field, depending on what the farmer is planting this year, next to the barn of WA9JMO and N9PAC. We will operate for the first three and last three hours of the contest. No lights, no mosquitoes, plenty of warm sunshine and gentle breezes; one has to remember, that we are old folks who appreciate our creature comforts and prefer to leave the night operation to the young people.

Last month I mentioned that Steve (K9ZL) and Joyce Bellgraph were basking in the warm Florida Sunshine. I was a little bit off on the geographic location of their basking. Steve tells me, he and Joyce enjoyed the wonderful Hawaiian Islands. Oh, well!

On the 14th of April, Chapter 162 will celebrate its Ninth anniversary during a noon brunch at either The Station or Fireside Restaurant in Kenosha. The establishment, at this writing, is still to be determined. Details will be given out during our weekly net on 147.27, Thursdays at 9 p.m. Postcard reminders will be sent to those not checking into the net.

On Saturday, the 2nd of March, five Ham groups sponsored the 16th Annual

Southeastern Wisconsin Amateur Radio Banquet at the Racine Yacht Club. QCWA, Chapter 162 was joined by the Racine Megacycle Club, the Lakeshore Repeater Association, the Windpoint Lighthouse Chapter of 10-10 International and the Kenosha Ham Breakfast Club to recognize club members who have contributed to our community and our hobby in a significant manner. Sixty-two attendees enjoyed socializing, a fine meal and a recognition program consisting of the following: KB9HAM and Kevin Liesner, N9VFG. Three Corporate Certificates of Appreciation were presented by the Racine Megacycle Club to Bill Adams, Troy Alexander and the Metro Milwaukee Auto Auction. Certificates of Meritorious Service were presented to Gene Haney, WB9-ZKY; Kenneth Kuchar, N9WHR; Rob Madson, KF9ZT; and Joseph Schimanski, KB9HSJ. The 1996 Ham of the Year is Dave Geschke, AA9HL. The first recipient of the Olin Fox, K9AKG Excellence Award is Bob Jensen, W0WLN. Congratulations to all our awardees. And my heartfelt appreciation and thanks to all who helped make this evening a special evening.

Only the allowed space prevents my detailed expression in words for all your assistance in this endeavor. The evening closed with 30 minutes of entertainment provided by an Octet from Opus 2000 of the International Sweet Adelines.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO



## SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Mike Musiel, KF9SJ, Secretary  
N9001 Dairyland Rd., Cleveland, WI 53015

At press time, nothing for publication had been received from the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club.

Valentine said the Teetsons' fellow ham radio operators helped authorities by offering what they knew about the Teetsons' activities. He said Coleman's arrest was a relief for both the community and authorities.

Floyd served as ARRL Delta Division director in 1962 and '63. Prior to that, he was the SCM of Mississippi (1960-61). He was an Honor Roll DXer and active contester and had been a member of several multi-op contest teams operating from various Caribbean DX sites. The Teetsons were active ARRL members.



**Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association (WAPR)**  
**Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC**  
**609 Wilson Street, Neenah, WI 54956**

## WAPR News - April 1995

```
=====
Russell Ely                                INTERNET EMAIL: rely@imagnet
North pole, Alaska                        =====
                                           TCP/IP:WL7LP.AMPR.ORG 44.22.2.20
|\\//\\//|                               =====
|         |                             AX25:KL7GNG.#NAK.AK.USA.NOAM
|   0110   |                             =====
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"Very funny Scotty! Now beam my clothes up !!" - Kirk	internet: klotts@primenet.com amprnet: aa7jc@aa7jc.ampr.org (dial-in 520 459-4269) AX.25 packet radio: aa7jc@nj7p.az.usa.noam linux host: svaip.fhu.primenet.com <a href="http://www.primenet.com/~klotts">http://www.primenet.com/~klotts</a>
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INDEPENDENT MAN  
INDEPENDENT MAN  
INDEPENDENT MAN

One of the more popular Packet Radio activities to be found is the daily check-in to the local BBS. As simple as this ritual may be, there is a great

potential that is largely unused in most of the BBS's that are in use in Wisconsin.

Most of the BBS's in this state are called MSYS. It is a particular kind of program written by Mike Pechura, WA8BXN. Simple functions are easy enough to use, if you are familiar with them. Some of the more complex functions are often ignored; some folks simply have not explored them. We will not cover all of these, but will tell you how to more efficiently utilize one of these BBS's, so you can get the maximum enjoyment out of it, and be nicer to your packet neighbors. In this installment, we will cover the "receiving" of packet messages. Next month, we will cover "sending". The following, we will look at the MSYS node operation.

First, a few BBS basics. Those messages you read that come from all over the country (and the world) are passed from one BBS to another, bucket-brigade style. What appears on your local BBS will very likely appear on any other BBS you visit in the state. Each BBS has what is called a "hierarchical address", and that is how your personal messages make their way to you, your home BBS has a unique address. It is best to choose a home BBS that is close to you. It will save a lot of time, and it very likely is no different than the one that you have in your town.

Now, about your "home" BBS. Everyone who elects to send and receive packet mail must choose one (and ONLY one) home BBS. You choose your home BBS when you register at a given BBS. Once you register a BBS as your home BBS, you have a hierarchical address at that BBS. If you have any doubt as to what your hierarchical address is, or how to register at a BBS, leave a message to the sysop of that BBS and he or she will be happy to help you out.

The Hierarchical address is most significant if you expect to receive a reply to any message. There are 3 basic types of messages; personal, bulletin, and NTS traffic.

Personal messages are just that - intended to a particular person and no one else. When you log into an MSYS BBS, you will be notified if you have mail waiting for you.

On the current versions of the MSYS BBS software, bulletins are listed by category. When you log in, you will see a listing of such categories, which is drawn from the "To:" address of the message.

NTS traffic is found by using the LT command. Many people do not realize that this command exists. It is easy enough to use and can be helpful to pass local NTS traffic.

Recent versions of MSYS BBS software is oriented toward simple operation. As was said earlier, you will get a listing of your personal mail when you log in. For example, I may see something like this if I have personal mail waiting for me when I log in:

Welcome Andy, to KB9ALN-5's MSYS BBS in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

You have unread mail, please kill when read:  
MSG # TR SIZE TO FROM @BBS DATE TITLE  
33989 PN 2112 KB9ALN N9PAY KB9ALN 960401 April Fools!

Enter right 1 digits of msg #'s to read or enter for none

To read the message, I would send the last right-hand digit (in this case, 9) to the BBS and it will display the message. It's that simple. If I did not want to read this message just yet, I would hit the Enter key. I could later list this message with the LM command, and read it as well.

Bulletins are just as easy to read, but can often cause a great flood of packets that can greatly disrupt the LAN frequency and the network, if done in a sloppy manner. Most people are familiar with the L command. This simply lists new messages that are on the BBS. The problem with this command is that it is not selective at all - it will list all the messages the BBS has received since you last logged on. You will see a great many listings for things that you may not have an interest in. This is a waste of the frequency. As I said before, MSYS is a very aggressive program. A LIST command will make it very hard to share the channel with others.

There is a much better alternative, though. When you log onto the BBS, a list of message categories is nicely displayed for you. If you have an interest in For Sale items, look at the category called SALE. You can list only the messages in this category by typing L SALE. This way, you get a chance to read the messages you want without jamming up the frequency looking at a list of messages you don't want.

Periodically, the BBS will pause and ask you: More? [Y]es, No, Continuous?"

To receive another screenful, hit the return key. Sending an N will stop the listing. Sending a C is Rude! This means that the BBS will send a listing of



## Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)  
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary  
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The March 14, 1996 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order at 7:50pm by club president, Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

The minutes of the last meeting, as published in the BSSS, were accepted. Jim Decker, WB9UQT, gave the financial report.

OLD BUSINESS: The Wisconsin QSO party was held on March 10. Many of the club's members participated and several contacts were made. Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ was taking more pictures for the Buckmaster CD-ROM. If you haven't had your picture taken yet, be sure to come to the next meeting. Circus Heritage Days coming up in May. (17-19) Annual open house was a success. About 20 people in attendance with 6 potential students, of which we have 3 in our class. Special thanks to Ann Klinkner, N9PQL and Karen Schulze, N9UDO's XYL, for the delicious goodies.

NEW BUSINESS: Jim Paul, N9LKY, confirms that we have two tables in our usual corner of the Baraboo High School gym for the up coming Youth Opportunity Day, to be held on Saturday, April 13, 1996. Open discussion on what equipment to bring and by whom. Past due memberships. A reminder mailing to those who have not sent in their renewal for 1996.

messages that will not pause until it is done. NEVER do this, you will tie up the LAN or Network for a significant amount of time. This is one "feature" that should immediately be written out of the MSYS program;

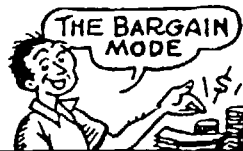
it is pointless and causes more problems than it is worth.

Sending the BBS LC will give you a listing of the message categories, should you list one category and forget what other message categories are available. XC toggles between an automatic listing of categories when you log in, and no listing of categories at log-in

Reading a bulletin is much the same as reading a personal message. As before, the BBS will periodically pause and ask you if you want more, or if you would like to read one of the messages. It will prompt you for a certain number of digits in the message number. You would type in those digits, and it will display the message. Hint: You may read more than one message in succession, and you must give the proper number of digits. For example, if the BBS asked you for the right 3 digits of the message number, and the message number is 26095, then you will send 095. You will need to send the 0 in order for the BBS to correctly interpret the message number.

This covers the basics of reading messages. Next time, we will cover the correct way to send a message or a bulletin.

Until next time, 73..Andy.



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WANTED: MBA-TOR cartridge for C-64. Herman J. Lidvik, W9HJV, 1311 15th St., So. la Crosse, WI 54601. (608) 782-2029.

FOR SALE: Colorful United States Stamps. 100 all different. \$1.00 postpaid. Richard Regent, K9GDF, 5003 South 26th St., Milwaukee, WI 53221.

FOR SALE: IC-229H 50 watt 2-meter \$298.00. FT-712 35 watt 440 FM \$279.00. Icom 2410 45 watt 2-meter and 35 watt 440, \$485.00. AA9BA, (414-685-5018)

Late Test Point information.

REDGRANITE, WI (W5YI and ARRL VEC)  
The Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (RAW) club of

Buck night winner was: Ken Sampson, N9WZP, who was NOT present. Next month the buck night kitty will be up to 2 dollars!

At 8:40pm a motion was made by Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB to adjourn. It was seconded by Tom Harrison, N9PQJ.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 1996 at 7:30pm in room 14 at the Baraboo Civic Center.

Submitted, Thursday, March 14, 1996.

Steve Schulze, N9UDO, President.

The following members and guests were present:

Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Len Wagner	N9XJG	Baraboo
Tom Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
George Gabay	N9QQR	New Lisbon
Jim Romelfanger	K9ZZ	Baraboo
Ken Johnson	K9DZG	Mazomanie
Art Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo
Dave Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Jim Decker	WB9UQT	Baraboo
Pete Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Al Johnson	AA7CS	Fort Atkinson

Redgranite will hold the 1996 test sessions on Saturdays June 29 and October 19, at the Civic Center in Redgranite, 202 Pine River Road, one block from Highway 21. Testing registration at 0830 sharp, and tests begin at 0900. Bring two forms of identification, 6.05 per test, and two copies of all original licenses, CSCE's as apply. Breakfast meet at the Curve inn, on Highway 21. All are welcome. For further information contact Mark Miller, AA9RC at (414) 231-1662, or Terry Witt, AA9BA at (414) 685-5108.

\* If buttered toast always lands buttered side down and a cat always lands on its feet, what happens if you tie a buttered piece of toast to a cats back and drop it?

\* Why do you need a drivers license. to buy liquor when you can't drive and drink?

\* why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?

\* If nothing ever sticks to Teflon, then how do they get teflon to stick to the pan?

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# Shopper's Guide

## SWAPFESTS



### 25th ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

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WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN

**SUNDAY  
JANUARY 12, 1997**

1995 WINNERS:  
Timothy J. Czerwinski, W09U, Chetek  
Steven D. Miller, KB9DFE, Spooner  
Karen M. Schneider, N9SVA, Appleton

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### HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING! MADISON SWAPFEST

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 1996**

Dane County Expo Center  
Forum Building

Sponsored by MARA/WB9AER  
P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890  
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### SWAPFEST 96

**July 13, 1996**

(Held every July)

American Legion Park

Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI

(414) 762-3235 Extension 58  
P. O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172

### Fox Cities Hamfest

**Sunday, November 3, 1996**

Starlite Club, Hwy. 55 north of Kaukana

HAMFEST INFO:  
Chad Pennings, N9PRC  
318 E. Brewster St.  
Appleton, WI 54911  
(414) 759-0799

EXAM INFO:  
Larry Siebers, KD9IA  
(414) 759-1167

### Lakeshore Hamfest

and Computer Swapfest

Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys. 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R  
**Saturday, May 11, 1996**

For more information, call:  
Glenn, AA9MT: 414-684-7096  
Red, N9GHE: 414-684-9097 (nights)  
ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

### HAMFEST & COMPUTER EXPO

ANTIQUE RADIO SHOW

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1996**

8 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

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2 1/2 MILES NORTH OF LA CROSSE, WI ON HWY. 35  
RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
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CALL DICK LOW, KØYB • 1-608-784-9176  
1520 NAKOMIS AVE., LA CROSSE, WI 54603

### 19th Annual CWRA Swapfest

**Sunday, June 9, 1996**

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

UNIVERSITY CENTER, U.W. STEVENS POINT

Info: John Kalina, KA9DJA (715) 344-1407  
1240 North Point Drive Stevens Point, WI 54481

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

### SWAPFEST

**Saturday, July 27, 1996**

Eau Claire County  
Fairgrounds

Intersection of Highways 93 and I-94  
Carol Ceraso • (715) 723-9205 Liz Searing • (715) 834-1303  
P.O. Box 1867 • Eau Claire, WI 54701

### RACINE HAMFEST 96 Sunday, July 28, 1996

8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

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### Ozaukee Radio Club 18TH ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 4, 1996

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center  
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I  
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,  
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222  
Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club  
11448 N. Laguna Drive • Mequon, WI 53092

Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs

### SWAPFEST

**Sunday, October 13, 1996**

Waukesha County Expo Center

Info: KMRA Swapfest P. O. Box 411  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0411

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

### AUCTION

**February 25, 1997 • 7:00 p.m.**

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street  
Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT:

Steve Hart, KA9OMC  
E616 810th Ave.

715-665-2374  
Knapp, WI 54749

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Dick Scarvaci

K9 CAN

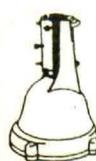
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